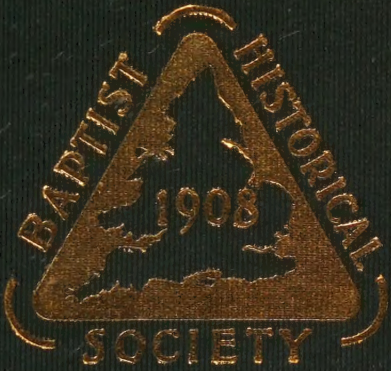
School of Theology at Claremont
1001 1407215



The Library

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
AT CLAREMONT

WEST FOOTHILL AT COLLEGE AVENUE
CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA

74

BAPTIST HISTORICAL
1908
SOCIETY

PRINTED BY
THE KINGSGATE PRESS,
4, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON,
AND BEDFORD.

BX
6276
A3
v.2

Church

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCHES

IN ENGLAND,

WITH KINDRED RECORDS;

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES FOR THE

BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY

W. T. WHITLEY,

M.A., LL.D., F.R.Hist.S.

VOL. II.,

1731—1811.

London:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY THE

KINGSGATE PRESS, 4, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, W.C.

1910.

Theology Library
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
AT CLAREMONT
California

PREFACE.

This volume completes the official records of the original General Baptists down to 1811. During the nineteenth century they issued their Minutes annually in print, and those whose interest has been awakened will have little difficulty in following up the story.

These volumes bring out clearly two points, as to government and as to doctrine. The General Baptists inherited from the continental Anabaptists the system of government which the Calvinists also adopted, and which has become so well known as Presbyterian; a system of graded courts all controlled by the General Assembly. A futile attempt was made by the Long Parliament to force this on the Established Church, in the very years when the English General Baptists framed their organization. By 1660 it broke down finally in the Establishment, by 1680 many General Baptists doubted its wisdom, more challenged it in 1697, and despite brave assertions that Independence was dangerous, a partial surrender was made in 1711. In practice the control has long been abandoned, but the old affinities show themselves in that the General Baptists even to-day are on friendly terms with the survivors of the Pædobaptist Presbyterians of 1662. The Society of Friends, which at its origin was so closely related to the General Baptists, and retained longer those peculiarities of attire, marriage, worship, and doctrine which were common to both, does yet maintain a similar system of organization. And the records of its Quarterly and Yearly meetings, dating from the same early period, deserve equally to be put before the world.

In the matter of doctrine, the "General" Baptists enshrine in their title the declaration that the grace of God is available generally, for all men, and not for some only. When they first said this, they were as voices in a wilderness, for in a Calvinistic atmosphere the Articles of Religion had been revised for England, and the Five Points were sharpened at Dort just as John Smith challenged their peculiarities. The Midland Confession of 1651 must be read with the recollection of the Westminster Confession of 1646. Its companion Shorter Catechism is better known, and shows what the great Puritan party then held. Not only did mankind lack original righteousness, and suffer from corruption of the whole nature, but it was involved in the guilt of Adam's first sin, it was under God's wrath and curse, liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to all the pains of hell for ever. The remedy for this was only of limited application, according to the Puritan theology, which announced that God out of His mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life. Against this ambiguity the General Baptists quoted scripture that God wished to redeem (not some, but) all men. And this was their cardinal doctrine.

Most of the bodies which still pay deference to the Westminster standards have declared their faith anew, and the contention of the General Baptists has long been widely accepted, to the humanising of theology, and the revival of practical Christian effort for the salvation of men.

W. T. WHITLEY.

Christ Jhesus gaf hym silf redempcioun for alle men . . . He thorug grace of god schulde taste deeth for alle . . . He wole not that ony man perische . . . He is the forgeuenesse for oure synnes, & not oonli for oure synnes: but also for the synnes of al the world . . . Alle men schulden bileue bi hym . . . Teche alle folkis baptisynge hem.

Wycliffite Version, about 1380.

Whosoever weakens or abuses this sign does violence to the words of Christ. The significance of this sign and symbol, the obligation of fidelity even unto death in hope of a resurrection to a future life, is moreover of greater moment than the sign itself. But these significant things can have no applicability to infants. Therefore the baptism of infants is foliage without vintage.

Hubmaier, 1525.

[Baptism is] a rite of initiation whereby men, after admitting his doctrine and embracing faith in him, are bound to Christ and planted among his disciples, or in his church.

Racovian Catechism, 1590, 1605.

Original sin is an idle term, and there is no such thing as men intend by the word. . . . God doth not create or predestinate any man to destruction. . . . As God created all men according to his image, so hath He redeemed all that fall by actual sin, to the same end. . . . All penitent and faithful Christians are brethren in the communion of the outward church, wheresoever they live, by what name soever they are known, which in truth and zeal, follow repentance and faith . . . The outward baptism of water, is to be administered only upon such penitent and faithful persons as are (aforesaid), and not upon innocent infants, or wicked persons. . . . The outward baptism and supper do not confer, and convey grace and regeneration to the participants and communicants. . . . The magistrate is not by virtue of his office to meddle with religion, or matters of conscience, to force or compel men to this or that form of religion, or doctrine.

John Smith's Propositions, about 1611; 18, 25, 27, 69, 70, 73, 84.

By the promised seed of the woman, Jesus Christ his obedience, all are made righteous, all are made alive: His righteousness being imputed unto all. . . . The king is a mortall man, & not God therefore hath no power over ye immortall soules of his subiects, to make lawes & ordinances for them, and to set spirituall Lords over them.

Thomas Helwys, 1611 and 1612.

Jesus Christ, through the grace of God, suffered death for all mankind, or every man. . . . The second Adam will as certainly raise all mankind from that death which fell on them, through or by the first Adam's sin or offence, as surely as they partake of it. . . . Jesus Christ was not only the Lawmaker, but the Law giver to every man that liveth in the world, in that he giveth every man therein some measure of light. . . . The Baptisme which the Lord Jesus commanded his disciples to teach, ought to be known by every one, before they submit themselves, or obey it.

Midland Confession of 1651: Articles 17, 18, 28, 47.

CONTENTS.

PAGE
County List x.
Gleanings, 1652-1680 xi.

THE SECOND ASSEMBLY BOOK.

1731 Assembly at Goswell Street 1
1732 Assembly at White's Alley 4
1733 Assembly at White's Alley 10
Correspondence with the Northamptonshire Association 14
Note on Singing and Hymns 21
1734 Assembly at White's Alley 22
Letters to Ford and the Bucks Association 25
1735 Assembly at Goswell Street 29
Letter to the Northamptonshire Association 32
1736 Assembly at Goswell Street 35
1737 Assembly at Goswell Street 39
The General Baptist Fund 43
Letter to Tunbridge Wells 44
1738 Assembly at Goswell Street 46
Note on friendly London churches 49
1739 Assembly at Goswell Street 51
Note on White's Alley 51
Note on all the London Baptist churches 55
1740 Assembly at Goswell Street 56
1741 Assembly at Goswell Street 59
1742 Assembly at Goswell Street 62
1743 Assembly at Goswell Street 66
1744 Assembly at Goswell Street 68
Letter to Bessels Green on Mixed Marriage 72
1745 Assembly at Goswell Street 75
1746 Assembly at Horsleydown 77
1747 Assembly at Horsleydown 79
1748 Assembly at Horsleydown 82
1749 Assembly at Horsleydown 84
1750 Assembly at Horsleydown 86
1751 Assembly at Horsleydown 89

PAGE
1752 Assembly at Horsleydown 92
1753 Assembly at Horsleydown 94
1754 Assembly at Horsleydown 96
1755 Assembly at Horsleydown 99
1756 Assembly at Horsleydown 103
Letter as to Singing and Business 104
1757 Assembly at Horsleydown 106
1758 Assembly at Horsleydown 108
1759 Assembly at Horsleydown 112
1760 Assembly at Horsleydown 115
1761 Assembly at Horsleydown 117
1762 Assembly at Horsleydown 120
1763 Assembly at Horsleydown 122
Note on the Leicester Association and the New Connexion . 123
1764 Assembly at Horsleydown 126
Note on Dan Taylor 127
1765 Assembly at Horsleydown 128
1766 Assembly at Horsleydown 130
1767 Assembly at Horsleydown 132
Note on the Regium Donum 133
1768 Assembly at Horsleydown 135
1769 Assembly at Horsleydown 137
1770 Assembly at Horsleydown 139
1771 Assembly at Horsleydown 142
1772 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 144
1773 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 148
1774 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 150
1775 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 153
1776 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 155
1777 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 158
1778 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 161
1779 Assembly at Paul's Alley, Barbican 163
1780 Assembly at Mill Yard, Goodman's Fields 167
1781 Assembly at Worship Street 170
Note on Leicestershire and Northamptonshire 172
1782 Assembly at Worship Street 173
1783 Assembly at Worship Street 175
1784 Assembly at Worship Street 178
Letter from the New Connexion 182
1785 Assembly at Worship Street 184
1786 Assembly at Worship Street 187
Note on reunion of the New Connexion 188
1787 Assembly at Worship Street 191

PAGE
1788 Assembly at Worship Street 194
1789 Assembly at Worship Street 198
1790 Assembly at Worship Street 200
1791 Assembly at Worship Street 204
Note on the Lincolnshire district 205
1792 Assembly at Worship Street 207
1793 Assembly at Worship Street 209
1794 Assembly at Worship Street 212
1795 Assembly at Worship Street 216
1796 Assembly at Worship Street 219
1797 Assembly at Worship Street 222
1798 Assembly at Worship Street 226
1799 Assembly at Worship Street 230
1800 Assembly at Worship Street 234
Note on Deptford 237
1801 Assembly at Worship Street 239
1802 Assembly at Worship Street 246
1803 Assembly at Worship Street 252
Note on Secession of the New Connexion 259
1804 Assembly at Worship Street 260
Note on Lutton and Long Sutton 265
1805 Assembly at Worship Street 266
1806 Assembly at Worship Street 272
Note on Wisbech 276
1807 Assembly at Worship Street 278
Note on Education for the Ministry 281
1808 Assembly at Worship Street 284
1809 Assembly at Worship Street 289
1810 Assembly at Worship Street 294
Note on Ramsgate 295
1811 Assembly at Worship Street 299
Note on the General Baptist Fund 306
Note on General Baptists in America 307
Index of Persons 311
Index of Places 333
Index of Topics 339

Churches before and * after 1731.

The following County list shows the churches which had ever communicated with the Assembly till 1731. The negotiations of the next four years not only brought some of these back into touch, but attracted for the first time some other churches, marked here *. Those which are heard of once only are bracketed.

Beds: *Leighton Buzzard, *Sundon.
Berks: *Maidenhead.
Bucks: *Amersham, Aylesbury, Cudington or Ford, *High Wycombe, *Stony Stratford, *Wendover, Wing, Winslow.
Cambs: *March, Warboys, Whittlesey, Wisbeach.
Essex: Burnham, *Castle Headingham, *Coggeshall, Colchester, Dedham, *Halstead, *Hornchurch, *Mersea Island, Melbourn and Fulbourn, Rainham, *Saffron Walden, Tilbury.
(Hereford): (Leominster).
Herts: Barnet, Berkhampstead.
Hunts: Fenstanton or St. Ives.
Kent: Biddenden, Boughton, Bradburn and Seven Oaks or Bessel's Green, Canterbury, Chatham, Cranbrook, Deal, Deptford, Dover, Eythorn, Feversham, Frittenden, Hythe and Folkestone, Maidstone, Marden, Speldhurst and Pembury or Tunbridge Wells.
Leicester: Leicester, *Mount Sorrel and Wimeswould, *Tur Langton.
Lincs: Alford, Boston, Bourn, Elsham, Lincoln, Spalding.
London: Covent Garden, Dunning's Alley, Goodman's Fields, Goswell Street, Horsley Down, Park, White's Alley.
Middlesex: Brentford.
Norfolk: Norwich, Smallburgh, *Yarmouth.
Northants: *Harringworth, *Long Buckby, *North Moulton, Peterborough, *Spratton, Ravensthorpe.
(Notts): (Nottingham) [General Association], (Rempstone).
Rutland: Oakham.
(Salop): (Shrewsbury).
(Stafford): (Stone House).
Surrey: *Croydon, Elstead, Worplesdon.
Sussex: Chichester, Ditchling, Horsham, Turners Hill, Warbleton.
Warwick: *Birmingham, *Coventry.

Western Association—counties never specified hitherto, and only two towns.

Devon: *Tiverton.
Dorset: Minterne.
Gloucester: *Hillsley.
Hants: Isle of Wight, Lyndhurst, Portsmouth.
Somerset: (Taunton), Wrington.
Wilts: Downton.
Yorks: [Sheffield ?]

The West Midland churches dropped out of touch by 1695; the Lincolnshire churches had a vigorous Association life, and are responsible for work over their borders in Yorks, Notts, and Norfolk; the Northants churches with Leicester and Warwick kept up the traditions of 1651. In practice the Assembly was almost a Home Counties body.

GLEANINGS, 1652—1680.

Amongst the original Letters and Papers of State addressed to Oliver Cromwell, 1649—1658, in the collection of John Milton, is a letter of 1 January, 1651-2, which supplements the "Faith and Practice of Thirty Congregations" in the Midlands, by supplying details of thirteen churches in and around Staffordshire, to which allusion was made in Volume I., page 30. The letter was reprinted by Mr. John Taylor of Northampton, and his reprint has been placed at our disposal by the Rev. A. S. Langley, F.R.Hist.S., of Longton in Staffordshire. The following churches and names must be added to the lists in Volume I.., pages xxxv and lviii.

DERBY	
Parwich	John Row, John Tomlinson.
LEICESTER	
Bitteswell	Thomas Morris, Thomas Townsend.
Gumley [or Theddingworth]	William Burditt, John Coles.
Leicester	Conyars Congreve, Thomas Rogers.
Mountsorrel	Robert Fielding, Edward Smith.
NORTHAMPTON	
Ravensthorpe	Francis Stanley, Robert Teaslow.
SALOP	
Bridgnorth	James Brown, Thomas Jefferyes.
STAFFORD	
"Berryhill"	Thomas Hamersly, John Slacke.
Burton-on-Trent	Robert Clarke, Thomas Wright.
Lichfield	Robert Prittie, Francis Silvester.
Shugborough	Edward Hill, William Sherbrooke.
Stafford	J. Darmen, Edward Love.
Walsall	Thomas Cumberlidge, Robert Stotesbury.

We may conjecture that these churches arose under the same impulse that produced the Midland churches which drew up the Faith and Practise; indeed one or two belong to both groups. But these seem to find their centre of gravity in Stafford, a military post, whose governor was Henry

D'Anvers. In Volume I. he was classed as General Baptist, and as late as 1656 he was associated with Samuel Oates; but from 1673 onwards his associations were entirely with the Particular Baptists, and he wrote forcibly against the Laying on of Hands; hence his name should probably be removed from our lists at page xliv.

Unexpected confirmation has come to the conjecture on page 24 of Volume I., that Assemblies could be held from 1672. C. R. Haines, Esq., M.A., printed in 1899 for private circulation a complete memoir of his ancestor, Richard Haines, 1633—1685, who lived at Sullington in Sussex, and was a member of the Horsham church. A copy of this has been lent by the author, who justly claims that we shall find in it a full account of an episode of great importance in the history, nowhere else described in detail. It shows that Assemblies were held from 1673 to 1680, and implies that they were the rule, not the exception. It throws a strange light on the subjects that Assemblies would then deal with, on organization and on procedure. In our lamentable ignorance of the Assembly's doings before 1689, the episode may be briefly retold.

Richard Haines became a Baptist after 12 June, 1656, when his eldest child was baptized, and probably before 29 October, 1657, when he allowed his second child to die unbaptized, all subsequent children also being unbaptized. Matthew Caffin lived at Broadbridge, in the same parish, and Haines joined his church, which met at Southwater, near Horsham. To the end of his life he clung to this fellowship, though none of his children seem to have followed him. He was a man of wealth and ability, farmer, inventor, manufacturer, student of the poor law; though at first he and Caffin were close friends, his eminence and his influential London friends somewhat alienated Caffin. When Haines after patient experiment discovered a means of cleaning trefoil or hop clover so as to improve the seed, and applied for a patent, Caffin dissuaded him, and attacked him in the church. In the autumn of 1672 he summoned Haines to discuss in the church-meeting whether patents were allowable to a Christian; he classed patentees, as covetous, with idolators and unclean persons, and threatened to excommunicate all concerned. At a second meeting Caffin condemned patents as a cause of offence in the world, and a cause of offence to the weak brethren. Haines was interrupted and insulted by Caffin when he tried to reply, so he appealed. Thereupon Caffin excommunicated him, specifying as the reason that the greed of Haines was giving general scandal in the country, and reflecting on the church. Within three days he published this excommunication, and presently sent Haines a formal paper, specifying the grounds of this action.

A law-suit on the matter, in which Caffin was not directly concerned, resulted in a speedy and thorough victory for Haines early in 1673, and a friend then tried to bring about a reconciliation within the church by a meeting in London at a Coffee house. Five prominent Particular Baptists, not of the Assembly, heard the case, admonished Caffin for daring to do such a thing when he had no word of God for it, and advised him to go home and reform the matter. By their initials we may suppose these " most eminent in London " were Gosnold of Paul's Alley, Watson of Coleman Street or Wise of East Smithfield, Perry of Coleman Street, Nehemiah Cox or William Collins of Petty France, and Samuel Tull of Petty France. The mediators being all Particular Baptists, the Horsham church merely said, " We do not own them."

Haines hereupon lodged his appeal formally with the Assembly, notifying the church. The Assembly met in June, 1673, when its chief concern was with the charge made by Thomas Monk against Caffin, of New Eutychianism, as to which Monk had published a book in the spring. Caffin retorted with a charge of fornication against Monk, as we hear from D'Assigny. And this cannot be explained away as the technical term for marrying out of Connexion, for Caffin disclaimed that phrase, and we learn that he was the draughtsman of the Agreement in 1668. The Assembly sided with Monk, but we do not know on which count of the cross-charges. Then came up the appeal of Haines, who asked that the matter should be dealt with in full Assembly. Caffin countered with a proposal to appoint six assessors who should sit with the Quarterly Association, before which the Horsham church and Haines should plead: Haines refused. Monk then proposed that a committee of six should settle at once, but Caffin objected time was lacking. This being over-ruled, Caffin raised the point of order that, except by consent, appeals could be heard by the Assembly only after a sister congregation and the County Association had successively been invoked. The point was apparently not decided, and the Assembly adjourned, though the practice of successive appeals was well established.

Haines lodged a second appeal to be heard in 1674, and when the Assembly met on 20 May in that year, the appeal was accepted as a matter of grace, and a decision was given. Haines at once expressed his dissatisfaction, though curiously neither pamphleteer cared to quote what the decision was. It could not have been final, for the matter came up year after year, and at one stage Caffin was adjudged wrong on his own showing, and patents were declared lawful. But Haines wished the excommunication reversed, and this was denied until he followed the usual course with a sister congregation and a Quarterly Meeting; though they did suggest that it be referred to arbitrators. At length he adopted the normal procedure, and exactly as he foretold, the influence of Caffin in Sussex was so great that Haines lost at both stages. He then appealed in due form, and brought his case after five years' delay properly before the Assembly.

Haines mentions some prominent members who supported Caffin:—Four Messengers: George Hammon (of Biddenden and Cranbrook), Captain Morcock (of Chatham), Uridge of Kent, and William Marner of St. Martins-le-Grand; with also Thomas Croucher, John Miller (of Minterne), Francis Stanley (of Ravensthorpe), and John Amory (of Wrington); one of whom was chairman. They opposed admitting the appeal, but it was heard. They managed, however, to prolong and confuse the meeting till it broke up in disorder, the members saying that "God had withdrawn Himself from them."

This meeting apparently took place in 1679, for the next and final stage was on 3 June 1680. Haines had meanwhile printed a broadsheet which recapitulated all the previous history, and which is our main source for it, though much is to be gleaned from books on each side issued in 1674 and 1675, two by Haines and two by Caffin. It wound up with the ultimatum that unless the Assembly would reverse Caffin's acts and would admonish his abettors, he would have recourse to a criminal prosecution.

When the Assembly met, he put in a printed paper—perhaps this very broadside—not only claiming his own vindication, but making three charges against Caffin (1) for contemning the laws and prerogative of the king, (2) for excommunicating when no human law had been transgressed, (3) for maintaining principles and tenets and discipline which were dangerous to the State, unjust and cruel to individuals. He also challenged all the members named above, demanding that they should not act as judges. In all this, Haines was strictly following Scripture order, not to go to law against a believer before unbelievers; but it was clear that if he remained excommunicated, this injunction did not apply to him, and he would manifestly be free to indict Caffin before the judges of the land.

Our interest will be largely on the organization and theories revealed in one paragraph:—" And now possibly with a pitiful Jugling Hypocrisie you may exclaim against the thing, viz.: Superintendency and Dependency, which you owned when I entered my appeal, but now you really pretend the Churches of God are Independent: well, then, what are you a General Assembly for? Are you nothing but Ropes of Sand, and are you not gross Hypocrites and Juglers not to tell me so before?" He presses the alternative, either decide the appeal, or dissolve the Assembly and own they are Independents like the Particular Baptists: " they meddle not with State Affairs; they assume not to excommunicate Persons, but upon the same terms as they baptize them, viz., plain text of Scripture for their warrant therein."

His cause was heard and decided. The Assembly reversed the excommunication, and ordered Caffin to rescind it, which he promised to do. By 7 June, 1680, Haines penned an appendix to his Appeal, and reprinted it as his triumphant vindication. As he died in May of 1685, we see how the extant Minutes are silent on this episode. But it is conceivable that some day we may discover the records, and if it was possible to meet even in 1674 and 1675, we may now believe that the meetings were practically annual: indeed it appears that the Minutes for 1683 and 1685 were offered for sale within the last twenty years.

From Haines' Appeal we can add at the top of page xxxiv. in our first volume the following who were Messengers:—

1679 George Hammon of Biddenden and Cranbrook.
1679 Captain Edward Morecock of Chatham.† 1693.
1679 Uridge of Kent.
1679 William Marner of St. Martins-le-grand. Joined Park 1680.† 1691.

We can also infer with hesitation that Francis Stanley of Ravensthorpe was not yet a Messenger at this date.

From the Wisbech Records, studied in our Transactions, Vol. I., No. 3, we can add to the next entry, which will run:—

1691 Francis Morris of Wisbech.† 1706.

He was evidently succeeded by another, whose date of ordination we cannot yet tell:—

c.1710 Nathanael Locking of Wisbech.†1725.

From the Fen Stanton Records at page 157 we may add to the List of Leaders before 1661, Israel Cave and Edmond Smith, Elders of Wisbech.

For the period of persecution Crosby supplies a few names in Northamptonshire, at III., 128:—William Bliss of Weston by Weedon, Robert Bringhurst, John Gilby of Long Buckby, John Grunden of Cocket near Towcester, John Jeas of East Haddon, Joseph Slater, William Smith of Weston and Welton, John Staughton of Blisworth. Wood tells us that Stephen Curtis of Harringworth was buried on 5 February, 1727; William Stanger of Harringworth, carpenter, farmer and minister is known by his descendant's memoir; Benjamin Morley of Ravensthorpe was alive in 1672.

From the reports to the bishop of London in 1669 we learn that Samuel Loveday was a coat-seller, of Aldgate parish, Whitsun Yard, East Smithfield. The State Papers show that Thomas Lamb was in trouble with the High Commission as early as 1639, when he lived at Colchester; next year he was sent to the Fleet prison, whence he was released on 25 June with the condition that he neither preached nor baptized nor attended conventicles.

*PROCEEDINGS [Page 1.]

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCHES

IN ENGLAND,

FROM 1731 to 1811.

VOLUME II.

*THIS BOOK [Page 2.]

contains the agreements of the General Assembly of the [1731, June 10.]
Churches of our Lord Jesus Christ baptized by Immersion [Goswell St.]
upon a personal profession of their Faith and Repentance [Terms of Reunion.]
Reunited upon the Terms hereinafter Expressed.

London June 10th. 1731.

WHEREAS there has been a division in the General Assembly, of the people commonly called General Baptists, which usually met in this City:[1] The said General Assembly being by the kind Providence of God once more met together: HAVE after mature deliberation, agreed, that there be an hearty Reunion, on the Belief of the Doctrine of Universal Redemption, and the Belief and Practice of the Foundation Principles of the Doctrine of Christ mentioned Hebrews 6; 1, 2, as they have been, and are believ'd and practised, By the Churches *By the Churches of this Assembly.

---

[1] The division of 1696, temporarily healed in 1704, had soon been repeated, as the preceding minutes show. As the focus of the other party was in Bucks, with the Midland churches generally adhering, they usually held their meetings at Stony Stratford, and entitled them this time, General Assembly, not General Association, thus asserting at least their equal importance with this Assembly, if not even implying that the Bucks party was the real sole Assembly. But in 1730 the Stony Stratford Assembly asked leave to meet at White's Alley in Whitsun week of 1731. This manifestly led to the reunion here detailed. The old Assembly met this year at Glass-house yard, as appears by a letter in 1733 from Northants.

1st. Art. of Union

[Page 3.]

2nd. Art. of Union [expunged in 1735.] And it is further agreed, that no preacher or Member of the Churches, now belonging to this Assembly, (or that may belong thereunto) shall Preach, Write or Urge, in discourse, such Controversie about the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity, which shall be unto the Disturbance of the Churches Peace, and naturally hath tendency to cause Divisions and Offences Rom 16, 17. And if any person whatsoever shall not have due Regard hereunto, he shall be accounted disorderly, and according to the word of the Lord be proceeded against as such, in the Church, Association or Assembly, where the Offence is Committed; forasmuch as many of us, have declared our Sentiments concerning the said Doctrine, in the first and second Articles, drawn up the 10 of June 1704, Still believing the Same, and do desire Peace with Purity in all the Churches of Christ.

In Testimony whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names.

It is also further agreed by this Assembly as followeth

1st. Ordered that the first Thursday in July next ensuing be kept as a Day of Thanksgiving on the account of the Reunion of the Assembly by all the Churches herein concerned or as soon as conveniently they can afterward not exceeding the fifth of Novemr. next.

2. Order'd that Bror Wm. Gyles return the thanks of this Assembly to Bror Welton for his agreeable Sermon and that Bror Drinkwater do likewise return Thanks to Brother Mercer for his agreeable Sermon which were done accordingly

3. Order'd that the Assembly Book be deposited in Bror Richardson's hand

4. Order'd that a Letter be drawn up and sent to the Several Churches in London of the same Faith *with us before mentioned to invite them to unite with this Assembly by Bror Drinkwater

[Page 4.]

Lastly. Order'd That this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday and Thursday in the Whitsunweek which shall be Anno

Dni 1732 and to be holden at Whites Alley London[2] And that Bror Benjn. Miller do preach a Sermon at the Opening the Assembly but should he be incapacitated Order'd Bror Ingrum do it.

[Autograph signatures.]

Messengers
John Brittain [Stony Stratford]
Wm Stanger [North Moulton]
James Richardson [Horsleydown]
Richd. Drinkwater [Chichester]
Benj. Miller [Downton]
Robt. Mercer [Warbleton]

Elders
James Smith [Hart street]
Benj. Ingram [Horsleydown]
Thos. Brittain [Leighton Buzzard]
Matth Stranger [Harringworth or Morcott]
Samuell Welton [Coventry]
Wm. Johnson [Isle of Ely ?]
Abrah. Welton [Coventry]
James Sampson [Tiverton ?]
Jam. Calverly [Bradburn]
Michael Harding [Amersham district]
Tho. Southon [Horsham]
David Chamonson[3] [Biddenden or Cranbrook]
Dan Brown
Edward Morris [Hythe and Folkestone]

[Page 5.]

Repr.
*Thomas Buckman
Rob Sandes
Amos Harrison
Geo. Jackman

Repr.
Cha. King
John Noah
John Sturch
John Tasker
Wm. Ashdowne

---

[2] The White's Alley church gave leave for the Assembly to meet here but nevertheless declined to join. The signatures for this year do not include that of Abraham Mulliner, the Elder, nor of any representatives. The hesitation was evidently due to the Second Article of Union, for when that was expunged in 1735, the church accepted an invitation to rejoin, and was represented in 1736.

[3] Apparently David Chapman of Cranbrook, see next year.

Repr.
Math Copper
Willm. Jackson
Robt. Barrett
James Coward
Richard Langley
Tho.
John Smith
Woodroff Drinkwater
Tho. Perry
Thos. Groombridge
Thomas Mercer
Thos. Budgen
Grantham Killingworth
John Nicholls
Peter Webb
Joseph Wheeler
Robt. J : o : ny[4]
John Goodchild

Repr.
Wm. Gyles
Danl. Beck
Joseph Cock
Wm. Penny
Joseph Penny
Joseph Hilldrup
John Johnson

[Page 6.]
[1732, May 31 and June 1.]
[White's Alley.]

*The Names of the Messengers Elders and Representatives of the Assembly met at Whites Alley London May 31 & June 1 : 1732

[Members present.]

Messengers
Benj. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
Ja. Richardson
John Brittain
Robert Mercer
Tho. David

London Churches
Whites Alley
Hart Street
Ja. Smith Elder
Repr.
Cha. King
Robt. Powel

---

[4] This extraordinary signature often appears, the man belonged to the Ford church.

Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	Elder	
	Phil. Denning Richd. Tiddiman	Rep.	
Horslydown	Benj. Ingram	Elder	
	Granthm. Killingworth Benj. Grant	Rep.	
Virginia Street	Matthew Randall	Elder	
	John Maulding Isaac Jemmet	Rep.	
The Park			
*Western Association	Ja. Samson John Sturch Jos. Mason	Rep. A Letter	[Page 7.]
Kentish Association			
Cranbrook	David Chapman	Elder	
	Ja. Cowper	Rep.	
Seven Oaks	Richd. Glover Wm. King	Rep. A Letter	
Maidstone	Fra. Carpenter	Elder	
	Tho. Groombridge	Rep.	
Hythe & Falkstone	Edw. Morris	Elder	
Dover	John Prescote	Rep.	
Marden	John Gardiner	Rep.	
Rovenden			
Headcorn			
Athorne			
Canterbury		A Letter	
Deale			
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman	Rep.	
Chichester	Rich. Drinkwater	ut Supra	
Horsham	Tho. Southon	Elder	
	John Tasker	Rep.	
Ditcherling	Tho. Buckman	Elder	
	Nath. Webb Wm. Denman	Rep.	
Worbleton	Robt. Mercer	ut Supra	
Turnershill	Rob. Sanders	Elder	
	David Dodd	Rep.	
Webstone	Rob. Ingram John Geere	Rep.	
*Croydon	Amos Harrison	Elder	[Page 8.]
	Richd. Barber Peter Webb	Rep.	

Essex	
Hornchurch	Abraham Nelson Elder Jno. Johnson Repr.
Millburn & Fullburn	
Coggshall	Henry Turner Elder
Mazey Island	Richd. Instance Repr.
Braintree	
Halstead	
Burnham	
Castleheadingham	
Norwich	
Yarmouth	
St. Ives	
Smalborough	
Hartfordshire	
Barkhamsted	
Bucks	
Ford	John Goodchild Rep.
Aylsbury	
Winslow	Wm. Gyles Rep.
Agmondesom	Danl. Beck Rep.
Stony Stratford	John Brittain ut Supra
High Wickham	
Bedfordshire	
Leighton Buzzard	Tho. Brittain Elder
Sundon	
Northamptonshire Association	A Letter
Lincolnshire Association	
Licestershire	
Mount Sorril & Wimeshold	
For Langton[1]	Thos. Davye et Supra
Leicester	
[Page 9.] *Warwickshire	
Coventry & Burmingham	Tho. Davie ut Supra
Rutland	
Oakham	
Middlesex	
Brentford	
Barks	
Maidenhead	

---

[1] Tur Langton.

Isle of Ely
March.

Bro. Benj. Miller being chosen Chairman [Officers.]
Bro. Robt. Mercer & Bro. Rich. Drinkwater Moderators & Bro Jon. Tasker Bro. Jon. Sturch & Bro. Beck & Bro. Tho. Brittain Scribes for the Assembly[2] they then proceeded

Agreed at this Assembly as follows

1. That whereas it hath appeared to this Assembly that [Family worship and catechizing of children.] there is a very great Decay of Holiness & Piety in many of the Members of the Baptized Churches and rising Generation wch is we esteem greatly occasioned by the want of Family Worship & a Pious & Religious Education of Children Tis therefore agreed by the Members and accordingly they do advise That each in the Ministry do choose to treat on such a Subject or Subjects on purpose to exhort all their Hearers to instruct and Chatechize their Children, to endeavour to bring them up in the Nurture & Fear of the Lord & to acquaint them betimes wth the Doctrines and Principles of the Gospel, And likewise to choose another Subject or Subjects to exhort their Hearers to maintain Family Worship in Family & Secret Prayer & Praises to God & continually to visit & encourage their Members & others to the Practice of these good Duties and to enquire whether they put the same in Practice and that these things be recommended to to the rest of the Churches wch. are now absent.

2. That every Church do endeavour to raise what Money [Funds for ministry.] they can Annually in the best Method and send the same by their Elder or Representatives to the Association with a View to the Supporting the present Ministry & encourageing Spiritual Gifts.

3. Upon a Debate wch. arose on the Article of Union made [3]and subscribed[3] last year a Committee was appointed to [4]Draw up[4] an Expedient [5]in order[5] to explain[6] and amend ye same, Vid. clause 6 below.

---

[2] Apparently the first time that James Richardson was not Scribe.

[3] These words are interlined in a different hand.

[4] These words are written over two other words (? think of) to obliterate them, and are repeated above the line.

[5] These words are added later.

[6] Originally there followed, "the same"; but these words were crossed out, and the sentence was completed as it stands in the text. All these corrections seem to be not original, but it is impossible to say whether they were made before the signatures were appended.

[Gifted brethren to be encouraged.] 4. A Question being proposed how to raise & improve Spiritual Gifts & promote ye Interest of Religion in the Churches of Christ it was agreed that Advice be given to all Elders and Ministers by Way of Exhortation to endeavour to raise up and encourage all Gifted Brethren conformable to our former Agreements sent to them for ye like ends. [Page 10.] *And we do further advise that ye Ministers of ye Sd Churches do endeavour earnestly and heartily to affect ye Severall Churches with a sense of their Need of enjoying the Presence & Blessing of God & that they recommend ye great Duty & Privilege of Fasting & Prayer & humbling themselves before ye Lord in order to be quickned & directed in maintaining ye Life & Power of Religion & serious Godliness.

[Messengers needed.] And whereas the Publick Service of ye Gospel requires more Assistance in taking the Care of the Churches We recommend to ye Several Churches their Religious and prudent Care in recommending some more Persons to ye next Assembly or Association to serve ye Church in ye Office of Messengers both in ye North and South & West Parts of this Kingdom.

[Hilsly.] 5. Agreed that a Letter be wrote to the Church at Hilsly to encourage them in their faithful Ministry and good Intentions of building a Meeting House & that the Severall Ministers present promise to recommend their Case to their Several Churches & they hope they may meet wth some Encouragement.

[Targum on second Article of Union.] 6. The Expedient wch was drawn up Bro. Samson, Bro. Killingworth, Bro. Smith, Bro. Davye, Bro. Ingram & Bro. Gyles, being read & approvd, is as follows;

> Whereas this Assembly is Informd by some of ye Members, yt Several of our Sister Churches have Objected against ye Second Article of our sd. Union last year, we do for ye Satisfaction of such Brethren & Churches, declare, yt we understand ye Sense of that Agreemt. in ye Manner following; That Christian Charity & Love, as well as common Prudence, requires every Member not to disturb ye Society to wch. he belongs & especially in Things wch. naturally tend to cause Divisions & Offences; so that here is no Restraint laid on Conscience, but is universally binding if this Article had never been made: nor are ye Rights of any particular Person or Church in ye least Infring'd

upon by it, but rather defended & enlarged; & This Assembly is so far from claiming a Power of Excom̄unication, yt they utterly disclaim it, & have effectually excluded themselves from meddling wth such Controversies, excepting in such Instances wch. may happen in this Assembly, where they have a natural Right as well as other Societies for their own Peace: so yt a Man may Preach, &c. any Doctrines wch. is not to ye Disturbance of ye Churches Peace, & naturally have a Tendency to cause Divisions & offences; & as it appears to us yt the Things herein required are of moral obligation & so ye Duty of all Christians;
It was ever accounted disorderly to act otherwise: & here is no Room Given[3] for to[3] Blame or Admonish[7] any Man but according to ye Word of ye Lord [3]and if so it must appear by the Word of the Lord[3] yt he is disorderly [8]or no[8] such Blame or Admonition can be due[9] to him so that the Word of ye Lord is made ye only Rule & Ground of Proceeding.

7. That Thanks be returned by this Assembly to Bro. Miller for his agreeable Sermon wch. was done accordingly by Bro. Drinkwater

8. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned till ye Wednesday & Thursday in ye Whitsun Week wch. shall be in ye year of our Lord 1733 at Bro. Mulleners Meeting House Whites Alley Moor Fields London.

*9. Agreed that Bro. Ingram or Bro. Drinkwater do preach a Sermon at ye opening of the Assembly. [Page 11.]

10. Agreed yt the former Assembly Book wch. was used at Stony Stratford &c.[10] be deposited in Bro. Brittain's Hands to be return'd to Bro. Richardson next Assembly wth whom the Assembly Book now is deposited. [Richardson custodian of books.]

---

[7] Originally, "admonition against."

[8] These words are written over "yt" so as to obliterate it.

[9] Originally, "demanded against."

[10] A pencil note in the margin:—"Not now extant."

[Signatures.]

Cha King
Robert Powell
Philip Dening
Wm. Gyles
Joseph Mason
Jno. Geere
Rich. Glover
Dav. Chapman
Richd Instance
John Prescott
Danll. Beck[11]
John Gardner
James Cowper
Nath Webb
Rich. Barber
Will. Denman
Peter Webb
John Tasker
John Johnson
William King
John Goodchild
Richd. Tiddeman
David Dodd

Messengers
Benj. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
James Richardson
John Brittain
Robt. Mercer
Thos. Davy

Elders
James Smith
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
James Sampson
John Sturch
David Chapman Sen.
Fra. Carpenter
Edward Morris
Thomas Buckman
Rob. Sanders
Tho. Southon
Amos Harrison
Henry Turner
Abrah Nelson
T. Brittain

Repr
Gra. Killingworth
Isaac Jemmett
Thos. Groombridg

[Page 12.] [1733, May 16.] [White's Alley.] *The Names of the Messengers Elders and Representatives of the Assembly met at Whites Alley London May ye 16: 1733.

[Members present.]

Benj. Miller
Rich. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer
William Johnson
Mesrs.

London Churches
Whites Alley
Hart Street
Ja. Smith Eld.
Rob. Powel
Nat. Britain
R.

---

[11] This signature is repeated in the right column just above that of Groombridg, and is there smudged out. The whole arrangement of signatures here is intricate, the right-hand column being evidently written first, six Messengers, then the Elders, then more Representatives.

Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	Eld.
	Phil. Denning	R.
	William Bell	
Horslydown	Benj. Ingram	Eld.
	Grantm. Killingworth	R.
	Benj. Grant	
Virginia Street	Mat. Randal	Eld.
	John Maulding	R.
	Isaac Jemmett	
The Park		
Western Association	Jos. Mason	R.
	John Sturch	
	A Letter	
Kentish Association		
Cranbrook	Ja. Cowper	R.
	Jon. Smith	
Seven Oak	Ja. Calverly	Eld.
	James Snow	R. A Letter
Maidstone		
Hythe and Foulkstone		
Dover	Rob. Pyal	Eld.
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Head Corn		
Athorn		
Canterbury	John Hobbs	R.
	Mat. Browning	
	A Letter	
Deal		
Tunbridge	Ms. Copper	R.
Chichester	R. Drinkwater	ut Sup.
	John Smith	R.
	Ja. Paskull	
Horsham	Jon. Tasker	R.
Ditcherling	Tho. Buckman	E.
	Jon. Ansell	R.
Warbleton	Jon. Gosling	E.
	A Letter	
Turnershill	Davd. Dodd	R.
	A Letter	
Webstone	Rob. Ingram	R.
	John Geere	
Croydon	Amos Harrison	E.
	Tho. Budgen	R.
	Peter Webb	

[Page 13.]

*Essex	
Hornchurch	Abram. Nelson Eld. Mat. Wall Rep.
Milbourn & Fulbourn	
Coggeshall	
Mazey Island	Richd. Instance R.
Brantree	
Halsted	
Burnham	Jon. Cable Elder
Castleheadingham	
Norwich	
Yarmouth	
St. Ives	
Colchester	Jon. Coolidge Eld.
Smalborough	
Hartfordshire	
Barkhamsted	
Bucks	
Ford	Robt. J:o:ny Rep.
Ailsbury	
Winslow	Jos. Jenkins Eld Wm. Gyles R. A Case
Amersham	Danll Beck R.
Stony Stratford	A letter
High Wickham	
Bedfordshire	
Laighton Buzzard	
Sundon	
Northamptonshire Association	Bro. Hale R. A Letter
Lincolnshire Association	
Leicestershire Association	Bro. Welton Eld Bro. Johnson[1] A Letter
Middlesex	
Branfford	

---

[1] The signature shows this to be William Johnson. Adam Taylor, II: 109, tells that in 1731, October 30th, he was ordained Messenger by Joseph Hooke, for Lincolnshire and the Isle of Ely. If the name be rightly entered here, he was now connected with Leicestershire instead of Lincolnshire, whereas Taylor dated the change in 1745.

Berks
Maidenhead
Isle of Ely
March
Glostershire
Hilsly Jon. Mason E.

[Officers.] Bro. Wellton was Chosen Chairman

Bro. Drinkwater } Moderators
Bro. Johnson

Bro. Tasker } Scribes
Bro. Sturch
Bro. Beck

[Northants.] 1. Order'd that a Committee be appointed to consider the Northamptonshire Letter & that Bro. Miller, Drinkwater, Mercer, Killingworth & Gyles be appointed accordingly to do the same.

Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned till to Morrow Morning Eight o'Clock

[Letters.] [Page 14.] [Death of John Brittain.] 2. Being assembled again May 17th. after Seeking the Lord by Prayer, it was ordered, That whereas this Assembly has received Letters of Salutation from Tunbridge Wells, Canterbury, Turnershill, ye Western Association, Leicester Association Seven Oaks, & Stony Stratford, that this Assembly do return them Thanks for the same. *and heartily wish them an Increase of Grace, & Spiritual Gifts here & Glory hereafter; particularly to Stony Stratford, that we very much condole wth them, the great Loss they have sustained by the Removal of their late [2]worthy Minister and Pastor[2] Brother John Brittain Messenger of the Churches; but glad to hear that the Lord has provided for them so that they are capable of continuing the Worship of God among them, in which we shall always be willing to afford our best Assistance, and shall be glad to enjoy their Company & Assistance in our next Assembly: and that Bro. Gyles be desired to carry the said Message.

[Warbleton.] [The Northants correspondence] 3. Order'd that Bro. Randall, Morris & Geere, be the Committee to consider & answer Warbleton Letter. According to the Appointmt. of the first Order concerning the Letter from Northamptonshire Association the Committee return'd

---

[2] These words are interlined.

& brought wt. they had drawn up for that End & after several Amendments it was agreed to by the Assembly & order'd the Letter & the Answer to be engross'd in the Book & are as as follows:

[From the Association at Long Buckby.]

The Church of Christ in Northamptonshire, under ye Pastoral Care of Bro. Wm. Stanger, Bro. Jon. Shenston, & Bro. John Lea[3] met at an Associate meeting at Buckby Mill March 29: 1733 To the General Assembly of Messengers Elders & Brethren Representatives of Several Churches in this Nation, owning the Doctrine of Universal Redemption, &c. meeting in London;

Beloved Brethren,

["The terms of Union are vague]

We recd. last Year at our Associate Meeting an Account of a Union being made between the Churches wch. were formerly divided: the Foundation of this Union not giving us full Satisfaction either through ye Weakness of our Understandings, or through some Obscurity in ye Thing it self, proved the Occasion why we had no Representatives wth you last Year: in our Association this Year ye same Matter coming again under our Consideration, & we not yet arriving at full Satisfaction, were moved from the Strong Desire we have of being in a firm & hearty Union wth all those who hold the same Faith, & teach ye same Doctrine wch. we our Selves believe, & are perswaded are true to send our beloved Brother Thos. Haile to you this Year as our Representative, by whom we hope to receive from you such farther Light as may, not only cause us to rejoyce our Selves in what is done, but also render us able to give a good Reason thereof to any who shall ask it of us.

Beloved Brethren

["and do not imply the adhesion of the Churches to the Articles of 1704]

The Union being made without Signing Articles of Faith & Union, is one Main Thing that renders us not so well satisfied as we could wish, now seeing you declare you believe ye 1st. & 2d. Articles drawn up June 10th 1704 to be true we wish you had also been willing to subscribe to them, because this would have removed all Scruples from us; & as for our Selves, we are perswaded, notwithstanding all that hath been objected against it, that there is no evil in Subscribing what we *believe to be true, but is rather commendable, [Page 15.] when it preserves a good Understanding between Churches, & tends to maintain Peace & Unity. And on the other Hand, we don't think that the not Subscribing Articles [2](when the refusing is not make a Cloak to Shelter Errors)[2] a matter of so great Moment as to cause Division amongst those who otherwise believe the same Things: and we hope therefore Beloved to receive Assurance from you that not only you who were present at your Meetinghouse at Glasshouse Yard, & ["but only the men who signed.] were Parties concern'd in making up this Union, are in the Belief of the aforesaid Articles, but also that ye Churches represented by you, are found in the same Faith; for wth all such Churches we desire a hearty Union: yet Brethren, we should be glad to know from wt. Reason you are moved to forbear Signing Articles of Faith wch you profess to believe ye Truth of; especially when the doing this will contribute to ye Satisfaction of your Brethren, & be a visible Demonstration that we are of ye same Mind, & of the same Judgmt.

---

[3] This heading is remarkable. Stanger lived at North Moulton, Lea at Spratton; the "Church," not "churches," is specified, yet it is acknowledged to be an Associate meeting. The phraseology suggests that the congregations were so closely knit, that they could speak of themselves as one Church, to which all the Elders belonged. It is a grave misfortune that in the subsequent decay of the churches, the Association records disappeared. It is well known that on the foundation of the churches, Particular Baptist churches arose in some cases.

One Thing more we beg leave humbly to offer to your Consideration namely this; There are some Churches among the General Baptists, that are fallen into ye way of Singing, Psalms of David, or other Mens ["Will you not oppose mixed singing?] Composures wth tuneable Notes, & a mixed Multitude; wch way of Singing appears to us wholly unwarrantable from the Word of God; Now Brethren, you as we are informed do admit of such to become as Members wth you; by wch., whether you approve of their Way of Singing, or whether you disapprove, & use any Means to bring them off from it, or whether you look on it as a Thing indifferent, we cannot tell, but think one End of your assembling together is to watch against Innovations, wch. do easily find a Way into the Churches ["All novelties are dangerous."] of Christ; and wn. one is admitted it makes Way for another, till at last we know not where to have an end. Therefore we desire, Brethren, that God will give you Wisdom to act in all such Cases as may equally tend to ye maintaining of Truth & the Preserving of Peace; that you may appear to be for the Defence of the Gospel of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father.

So expecting to receive such an Answer from you as may render our Meeting as free from Doubts & Scruples as may be, we commend you to God, & remain your Brethren in the Lord,

Signed by us in Behalf of the Churches to wch. we belong

Wm. Stanger	Saml. Paxston
John Lee	Danel Ward
Thos. Haile	Edw. Robison

[Page 16.]

*THE ANSWER

[The reply to Northants.]

The General Assembly of Messengers, Elders & Brethren, Representatives of the Several Churches of Baptized Believers, constituted according to Heb. 6. 1, 2, and owning ye Doctrine of Universal Redemption now met at Whites Alley May 16-17: 1733. send Christian Salutation to our beloved Brethren Wm. Stanger, John Shenston & Bro.[2] John Lee, & ye rest of the Brethren who hold an Association wth. them at Buckby Mill in Northamptonshire.

Christian & Beloved Brethren,

We recd. read & considered your Letter by our Brother Haile, containing the Reasons why we have no other Representatives from you at this Time, & desiring [4]to know from wt. Reason we are moved to forbear Signing Articles of Faith.[4]

[" See the Sixth Article of 1732.]

As to the first concerning the Obscurity[4] of ye Articles upon wch. we united; we had great Reason to hope that our Bro. Stanger, who was present in that Assembly, & last Year sent us a Satisfactory Letter about ye Union then made, might have given you full Light into the Sense of this Assembly: But as we find you are yet in doubt & yt the Expedient wch. we drew up last Year to explain those Articles, did not come to your Hands, we give you the same at large as follows, which we hope will be a full Satisfaction to you. (See ye 6: Article 1732)

---

[4] These words are underscored.

As to your Request that [4]you should be glad to know from wt. Reason we are moved to forbear Signing Articles of Faith.[4] It is because we find neither Precept nor Precedent for our so doing in ye Sacred Scriptures of Truth; wch. we believe to be the only Rule both of Faith & Practice, in all Religious Services: & we believe that our dear Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ & his holy Apostles, who were endowed wth. an infalliable Spirit, had the only Power & Right to prescribe Laws & Rules, & appoint the Bounderies of his Churches Obedience, Communion & Union & whoever shall attempt to do such a Thing now by pretending to explain some Scriptures, is usurping ye Authority of Christ & his Apostles, without they are assured that they *can infalliably determine ye Sense of Scripture, & can give a Proof of their Infalliablity, wch. we presume no Protestant Christian will pretend to, & therefore every sincere Christian must be left to judge for himself wt. ye Sense of Scripture is, according to the Light wch. God giveth him, Phil. 3. 15, 16. Therefore we esteem it unlawful for any Man to make & impose humane Compositions as a Test or Boundery of any Christians Faith for because they thereby offer ye highest Affront to the infalliable Spirit of ye Eternal God wch. inspired the holy Penmen of ye Old & New Testaments wch. are the only Rules to prove & try every Mans Work, both of Faith & Practice by. For whatever is not according to yt Rule, is as represented in Gal. 1. 6, 7, 8. And therefore we conclude, yt nothing but ye plain Words of Scripture, ought to be enjoynd upon the Faith of Christians, & not Mens Inferences therefrom. For if we build our Faith upon their Interpretations, we are no longer ye Disciples of Jesus Christ, but of ym whose Interpretations we follow as the Rule of our Faith. But we conceive yt all Things both of Faith & Practice, necessarily essential to the Salvation of Men & Women, are clearly & plainly found in ye express Words of Scripture; & if so, then all humane Articles of Faith are needless: But if any Persons should imagine that all necessary Matters both of Faith & Practice, are not

["We object to sign Articles]

["knowing that they are fallible]

[Page 17.]

["and preferring to sign only infallible scripture] plainly found in ye express Words of Scripture, & yt they stand in need of humane Explanations, they must then, (as we conceive,) conclude that there is an Imperfection in ye Revelation of ye Perfect Mind of God, either through want of Wisdom in him to Declare[5] his Mind to us; or good Will to our Salvation; or at least his Desire of our right Knowledge how to worship him in order to attain the same: each of wch. are Suppositions wch. we hope you wth. our Selves despise & disown; and therefore we decline ye making any other Articles of Faith, & imposing them as ye Bounds of Union, but are determined to abide by ye Word of God, as contained in the Sacred Scriptures of Truth, & to Settle our Selves upon them only, for ye Peace, the Comfort, Joy & Safety of all ye Churches of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, thereby to prevent & avoid all Divisions & Contentions therein for the Time to come, Col. 3. 12, 13, 14, 15.

["and believing that creeds have been the cause of constant divisions.]

[6]And moreover, dear Brethren, we are verily perswaded yt ye want of such Resolutions as these, were ye unhappy cause of most of the Divisions, & Persecutions which appear'd in the Early Times of Xianity; & to our Grief & Concern of ye Contentions & Divisions wch. have prevail'd to the Reproach of our most holy Religion of latter Years, & therefore should be carefully avoided by us.

[Page 18.]

["Mixed singing is very rare in our Churches]

["but it is not condemned by us.]

*As to wt. you mention concerning Singing, we do assure you, that there is very few that belong to this Assembly, who either practise[6] or approve, [4]the Way of singing Mens Composures wth. tuneable Notes & a mixed Multitude;[4] But as that Practice arises from their different Apprehension of some Scriptures, and we believe them sincerely perswaded yt they ought to praise God in that Manner Therefore we do not think it justifiable for us to refuse to joyn wth. them in a General Assembly, [4]in order to concert Such Measures as may make for ye Peace & Prosperity of all the Churches of Christ:[4] But to them we recommend a serious Examination of the Scriptures for ye Reasons above: Which wth. our Prayers to Almighty God to lead & direct us into all Truth, & to keep us from every Error both in Faith & Life, we hope will be of some good Use to them, & our Selves also: & as you have more than once express'd [4]ye Strong Desire you have of being in a firm & hearty Union wth. us,[4] & are so Catholic & Extensive in your Sentimts. as to declare you [4]don't think, that the not Subscribing Articles a Matter of so great Moment as to cause Divisions amongst us.[4] We therefore hope that you will take full Satisfaction herein, & that we shall be so happy to enjoy ye Presence, & have the Assistance of more Representatives from you to do the Work & Business wch. concerns ye Churches of Christ in ye next Assembly.

---

[5] This word obliterates something else.

[6] These 92 words are squeezed in after effectual erasure of about 30 words; the alteration seems contemporary.

["We now entreat your fuller adhesion to the Assembly."]

And now Brethren, we commend you to God, & to ye Word of his Grace, wch. is able to build you up, & give you an Inheritance among all them wch. are sanctified. And may ye God of Peace, that brought again from ye dead, our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of ye Sheep, thro' ye Blood of ye Everlasting Covent. make you perfect in every good Work to do his Will, working in you that wch. is well pleasing in his Sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be Glory for ever & ever, Amen, Act 20, 32. Heb. 13. 20, 21.

[Page 19.]

[Collections for poor ministers.]

*In relation to the Letter from Warbleton It is Agreed, That what Colections are made yearly by the Several Churches belonging to this Assembly shall be remitted to Mr. Steed on Tower Hill to be appli'd by the Society of which he is Treasurer for the relief of Poor Ministers, and the Improvement of Gifted Brethren, and the time being now to Short to draw up a Letter perticular enough it is refered to Bror Morris and Randall, or any other whom they shall approve of, to give a fuller account of this Society to the Church at Warbleton, or to any other Churches which may desire it, or to whom they may think proper.

[New Messengers: Welton and Allen.]

A Motion being made to Nominate some Brethren to the Messengers Office our Bror. Samel Welton of Coventry being Named[7] to this Assembly, as a proper person for that Office he was accordingly put up and Unanimously chosen to that office.

Likewise our Bror. Wm. Allen of Combe of Bucks was put up and accordingly chosen to the Messengers Office.

---

[7] Originally, Nominated.

Agreed that our Bror. Johnson do request the Church at Coventry to consent that Bro Welton be ordained to the Messengers Office: and that Bror. Beck do make application to the Church at Ford to consent that Bror Allen be ordained to the same Office.

[Jemmet to keep the book.] Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bror. Isaac Jemmet[8] and Copies of the Proceedings to be had of him, paying for the same.

Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bror Ingram for his Agreeable Sermon at the Opening of this Assembly, which was done accordingly by Bror. Welton.

[Page 20.] *Agreed that this Assembly be Adjourn'd to the Wednesday and Thursday in Whitson Week in the year 1734. at Mr. Mullingers Meeting House [9]in Whites Alley near[9] Moorfields London. And that Bror Drinkwater do Preach a Sermon at the opening of ye next Assembly and on default Bror. Jo: Morris.

[Signatures.]

John Ansell
Will. Bell
Robt. J:o:ny
Philip Dening
Peter Webb
David Dodd
James Cowper
Thos, Bridgen
Robert Powell
Math. Watts
John Smith
John Smith
Wm. Gyles
Nathel. Brittain
Gra. Killingworth
John Gould
John Miller

Benj. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer
Wm. Johnson
Samuell Welton
Joseph Morris
James Smith
Mat. Randall
Benjn. Ingram
Thomas Bridgman
Amos Harrison
Abrah Nelson
Jam. Calverly
Jno. Geere
John Cable
John Malding
Isaac Jemmett
Jams. Snow
John Sturch
Jos. Jenkins
John Tasker
Danel. Beck
Math. Copper
John Gosling

---

[8] James Richardson was evidently dead.

[9] These four words are interlined, replacing " Little."

Since the question of singing was mooted last in 1689, there had been developments. Benjamin Keach, who was responsible for the innovation, published in 1691 nearly three hundred hymns, entitled "Scriptural Melody." His chief disciple was Joseph Stennett, senior, who since 1689 was pastor of the Sabbatarian Calvinistic Baptist Church, worshipping on Saturdays at Devonshire Square, and subsequently at Pinner's Hall. Stennett in 1697 published hymns for use at the Lord's Supper, which grew to the number of fifty. In 1712 he broke new ground with twelve hymns for use at baptisms—other verses for special occasions were also issued, and his Sabbath hymn, "Another six days' work is done," is often sung still upon the Lord's Day.

These two men inspired a few others. Bishop Ken wrote one or two hymns which made their way beyond his Nonjuring Church. A young Independent minister in London, named Isaac Watts, wrote a few hymns, into one of which he "conveyed" several verses of Stennett's. He published a little volume in 1707, entitled "Hymns and Spiritual Songs." Twelve years later, he struck out a new line by "The Psalms of David, Imitated in the Language of the New Testament," followed in 1720 by "Divine and Moral Songs for the use of Children." Far away in the Yorkshire dales, a Calvinistic Baptist minister, named Alverey Jackson, wrote hymns for the Lord's Supper, and then ventured to sum up the chief points of his lengthy sermons in verses which he lined out for the congregation to sing.

By two different channels these influences told on the General Baptists. Joseph Stennett was indeed a Sabbatarian and a Calvinist, but he was ready to preach for other Baptist churches, and his great ability—recognised by the courts of William and Anne—led to frequent invitations. Till 1700, he regularly conducted the worship at Paul's Alley, which was in close touch with High Hall, Hart Street, and White's Alley. Curiously enough, Paul's Alley became the home of a Particular Baptist church from Virginia Street, which gave up its premises to the Goodman's Fields church in 1712.

Not far from Southampton, Watts' birthplace, in the "sweet fields beyond the swelling flood," was the city of Chichester, where the Baptist church was tended by Richard Drinkwater and Matthew Randall. The latter was invited in 1722 to take charge of the Virginia Street General Baptist church, and many changes ensued. A special visitation of the whole church was undertaken on the point whether singing of hymns were agreeable. After trial of one hymn during the services, a further step was taken in 1729 by closing after the sermon with a second. These minutes show that the members upheld their practice on scriptural grounds, that they failed to convince others, and that they were even disapproved of. The Assembly churches long remained songless, and when in 1782 the New Connexion decided to have simple congregational singing without musical instruments, Gilbert Boyce soon published a volume against the practice.

To complete the subject, in advance of time, it may be added that, in 1803, Mrs. Alice Flowerdew, a member of the Glass-House Yard church, then housed at Worship Street, published some "Poems, on moral and religious subjects," reprinted next year, and augmented in 1811. Also in 1805, John Dobell issued a collection of "Hymns and Spiritual Songs," and followed it next year with "A New Selection of . . . Evangelical Hymns," many original, which ran to three editions. But otherwise the lack of interest in song among the General Baptists was as marked as among the sister community, the Society of Friends.

[Page 21.] [1734, June 5.] [White's Alley.] *The Names of the Messengers Elders and Representatives Mett by adjournmt. this 5th day of June at Whites Alley 1734.

[Members present.]

	Benj. Miller	Messengers	
	Richd. Drinkwater		
	Robt. Mercer		
	Jos. Hobbs		
London Whites Alley			
Hart Street	James Smith	E.	
	Robt. Powell	R.	
	Thos. Hildrup		
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morriss	E.	
	Phillip Denning	R.	
	Wm. Bell		
Horsley down	Benj. Ingram	E	
	Grantm. Killingworth	R.	
	Thomas Odeham		
Virginia Street	Matt. Randall	E	
	Isaac Jemmett	R.	
	Jno. Malding		
Park			
Western Association	Benj. Miller	as above	
	George Jackman	Rep.	A Letter
	Jno. Mason		
	Jno. Sturch		
	Jno. Gould		
Kentish Association			
Cranbrook	Richd. Langley	R.	letter
Seven Oaks	Wm. King	R.	Letter
Maidstone			
Hith & Foulkstone			
Dover			
Marden			
Rolvenden			
Headcorn			
[Page 22.] *Athorne			
Isle of Thanett[1]	Richd. Chilton	E.	
Canterbury			
Wingham			
Stelling			
Deall			

---

[1] The centre of this church was at Ramsgate. A legacy by Mr. Jervis was causing difficulty in this district, whether the General Baptists or the the Particular Baptists should profit. From 1733 to 1736 the matter remained unsettled, and the last proceedings of the British Coffee-house Society recorded in their original book, relate to arbitration arranged with the Particular Baptists.

Tunbridge Wells	Wm. Ashdown R.	Letter
Chichester	Richd. Drinkwater as above	
	Jno. Smith R.	
Horseham	Jno. Tasker E.	
Ditcerling	Matt. Hunter R.	
Warbleton	Robt. Mercer as above	
Turners Hill	David Dodd R.	
Gloucestershire		
Hillsley	Jno. Mason E.	A Letter
	Jno. Sarney R.	
Ireland		
Dublin	Oswald Edwards E.	Letter
Webstone	Robt. Ingram R.	Letter
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	
	Richard. Barber R.	
Essex		
Hornchurch	Abra. Nellson E.	
Walden	Jo. Eedes R.	
Coggeshall		
Maszey Isle	Richd. Instance R.	Letter
Braintry		
Hallsted		
Burnham	Jno. Cable E.	
	Jno. Glace Neal Cripps } R.	
Castle Headingham		
Norwich		
Yarmouth	Jno. Bending E.	Letter
St. Ives		
Colchester	Jno. Coolidge E.	Letter
	Robt. Agnes R.	
Small borough		
Hartfordshire		
Barkhampsted		
Bucks		
Ford	Robt. J:o:ny Danel. Rider } R.	Letter
*Ailesbury		[Page 23.]
Winslow	Jos. Jenkins E.	
	Wm. Gyles R.	
Amersham	Danll. Beck R.	
Stoney Stratford		
Chipping Wycomb		
Bedfordshire		
Leighton Buzzard	Thos. Brittain E.	
Sunden		
Northamptonshire Association		

Lincolnshire Association
Leicester Association Samel. Wellton E.
Wm. Penny R.
Middlesex
Brentford
Barks
Maidenhead Jno. Hildrupp E.
Isle of Ely
March
Buckinghamshire Association Letter

After seeking the Lord by Prayer proceeded as followeth
[Officers.] viz Bro. Samel. Wellton Chairman
Bro. Drinkwater & Mercer Moderators
Jno Tasker
Danel. Beck } Scribes
Jno. Sturch

1. [William Allen and the Ford Church.] read a letter from Bro. allen of Comb agreed that a Letter be wrote to ye sd. Bro. Wm. Allen and to the Church at Ford in answer thereto by Bro. Miller & Jenkins.

2. [Annual collections for poor ministers.] The Letter last year ordered to be writt to Warbleton Church by Bror Morriss & Randall was now read and approved and this assembly agrees to return the Society of which Mr. Wm. Steed is treasurer their thanks for their care of and services to the poor Ministers of Christ and do recommend it to all[2] [Page 24.] our Churches to make *annuall Collections to that good End & valuable purposes and remitt the same to their treasurer for the Time being and request ye sd. Society to give Such Information as they shall think proper and that those of this assembly that are Members of that Society do acquaint the sd. Society therewith.

3. [Demand for cancelling second Article of Union.] The Paper from the Buckinghamshire Association being read wch. requires that the 2d. Article of ye Union 1731 be expunged &c

Agreed yt ye same be referred to a committee appointed to draw up an answer who were Bro. Drinkwater, Killingsworth, Wellton, Harrison, & Edwards.

4. [Yarmouth building.] A Letter from Great Yarmouth being read thanking those Churches that have contributed to the building the present Meeting house and We[3] recommend their said Case to those Churches that have not yet contributed thereto that

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] A word obliterated.

they would return their Collections & ye petitions as therein desired.

The Committe appointed to give an answer to Bror. Allens 5.
Letter returned was approved and ordered to be delivered [Replies to 1 and 3.]
by Bror. Jenkins & Beck.

Likewise ye Committee appointed to Draw an answer to the Paper from the Buckingham Shire association returned and being read was approved and ordered to be sent by Bro. Jenkins & Beck.

The Assembly recommends it to all the Churches belonging 6.
to it to make annuall Collection and the Money so raised [Annual collections for buildings.]
shall not only be disposed of for the support of Poor Ministers and the Encouragement of young Gifts but also for the Relief of Ministers Widows and for the building of Meeting houses according as every Congregation shall order their Money to be disposed of.

Whereas this Assembly has recd. Severall Letters of Saluta- 7. [Greetings.]
tion from Severall Associations Churches & Persons this Assembly desires that the Persons by whom the said Letter was brought do return the Thanks of this Assembly to the sd. Associations Churches & Persons wishing them an increase of Gifts and Graces here as preparatory to Glory & Happiness hereafter.

Ordered that ye Case of Merzy Isle be considered in our next 8. [Mersea Isle.]
assembly.

*The Letter order'd to be drawn up by Bro. Miller [Page 25.]
& Bro. Jenkings being read and approved is as follows [June 6.]

From the General Assembly met at Whites Alley Moor [The letter to Ford.]
Fields London June 5th & 6th in the Year 1734

To the Church of Christ at Ford in Bucks & to our Brother Wm. Allen in particular Greeting

Beloved Brethren

Forasmuch as this Assembly did the last Year take ["The Churches need Messengers]
into their most serious Consideration the want there is in the Churches of Ministerial Men to carry on the Work of the Lord amongst them and more especially that of Messengers whose Work & Business it is to serve the Churches in a more general & public Capacity & in order thereto as it is the Churches Business to look out from amongst themselves Men that are best qualified for the Employment they are to be engag'd in as Acts 6. 3. so have we had our Eye on our beloved Bro.

["and we think Allen fit]

["so ask you to give him up]

William Allen as one whom the Lord has in a good Measure gifted and qualified for that Work and as this is an Office of a general Employment so it is that wherein all Churches are concern'd to look out and send forth Men of suitable Minds and Abilities that they may be indeed ye Messengers of the Churches and Glory of Christ and consequently all Churches where such Men are found must in Compliance to the Gospel Rule give up such Members to that Service wn. called forth thereto So that we hope the Church will not think it a greater Hardship to give up such Member to the Lords Work than other Churches who are to do the Same & therefore readily comply wth. our Request.

["though he shrinks from office.]

[Page 26.]

And whereas our Bro. Allen questions his own Ability for that great Work we like him never the worse for his modesty therein yet we think 'tis not himself *that is to be the only Judge of Qualification that the Churches who are to take Care whom they set apart to that Work & Business and if they think him fit we hope he will the more readily submit and comply wth. their Choice & Purpose.

["We see no need for a Messenger to be an Elder first]

And whereas our Bro. Allen thinks he ought to be first a Presbyter ye better to prepare him for a Messenger as we find no such Rule in ye Gospel to proceed so on the contrary [2]as we find[2] our Lord gives the different Gifts to the Members of his Church to fit them for the different Employments they are to engage in as Eph. 4. 11. so where the Churches sees those different Gifts appear there they are to place the Office as thereby directed by Christ in the Gifts he has given them to fit them for the same.

["and do hold the office a permanent divine institution."]

And lastly as our beloved Bro. Allen desires to be satisfied that this Office is of Divine Appointment & as such is to be continued in the Churches to Satisfie himself herein so we hope he will remember that our Lord having set up such an Office in his Church telling them that the Gospel of ye Kingdom must be preached to all Nations till the End come Mat. 24. 14, And accordingly has promised his Presence wth. them to the End of the World Mat. 28. ult, And as the first Apostles had their Successors so our Lord is said to furnish his Church with this as well as other Gifts for the work of ye Ministry & perfecting of the Saints till the whole

Work is done and they all made compleat in Christ Jesus, Eph. 4. 12, 13. and here it is so confirmed by the Holy Ghost as Act 13. 2. & chap. 20. 28. We subscribe our Selves your Brethren in the Lord.

*The Letter[4] appointed to be drawn up in Answer to ye Paper from ye Buckinghamshire Association being read and approv'd is as follows: [Page 27.] [The letter to Bucks.]

The General Assembly of Messengers Elders & Brethren Representatives of Several Churches of Baptized Believers constituted according to Heb. 6. 1, 2. & owning ye Doctrine of Universal Redemption now met at Whites Alley June 5, 6, 1734 Send Christian Salutation to our Beloved Brethren of the Association met at Alisbury in Bucks ye 29th of April last:

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

We received a Paper by the Brethren whom you appointed to attend in our Assembly wherein we find you are desirous [5]that the Second Article of our Union agreed to 1731 be entirely expunged[5] we hope that in the Assembly held the Year following 1732 we have so fully explained the said Article as to remove all Objections from every tender and scrupulous Mind and that you will see we[6] never intended to hinder or prevent any of our Conscientious Brethren from preaching what he believed to be true But if this be not a Sufficient Satisfaction to you we are willing entirely to expunge the Said Article so soon as you shall declare to us that you are willing to joyn with this Assembly upon that Condition. ["As you ask us to delete the Second Article of 1731] ["we will if you will join us.]

As you appointed your Messengers to us [7]to move that this Assembly do express their Sentiments about the Doctrine of the Trinity in our own Terms[7] we conceive it best and safest for all Persons & Societies of Christians to do it in the express Words of Scripture lest by deviating therefrom we give occasion to others to upbraid *us with pretending to be wiser than God who inspired the Penman of ye Old and New Testaments the express Words of which we resolve to abide by for the Reasons ["But when you ask our doctrine of the Trinity,] [Page 28.] ["we decline to vary from Biblical terms."]

---

[4] The word "being" followed, and is crossed out.

[5] These thirteen words underlined.

[6] Interlined, replacing "you."

[7] These nineteen words underlined.

contained in ye Letter we sent last Year to our Brethren associated at Buckby Mill in Northamptonshire to which we[8] refer you and conclude wishing that Christ may dwell in your Hearts by Faith yt ye being rooted & grounded in Love, may be able to comprehend wth. all Saints, what is the Breadth & Length & Depth & Heighth, and to know the Love of Christ which passeth Knowledge, that ye may be Filled wth. all the Fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the Power that worketh in us, unto him be Glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all Ages World without End, Amen, Eph. 3. 17, &c.

9. [Overtures to London Churches.] Ordered that Bro. Morriss, Randall, Ingram, & Smith be appointed to acquaint the Churches in London who are not joyned in Assembly to Let them know our foundation and standing and to desire their Company and assistance in our Next Assembly.

10. [Hobbs to be Messenger ? Ordered that our Brethren Drinkwater and Mercer do enquire into the Case of Bror. Hobbs at Canterbury in Relation to his being made choice of to the Messengers Office and to report the same to our next Assembly.

11. [Sermon.] Ordered that Bror. Wellton do return the thanks of this Assembly to Bror Drinkwater for his Sermon at the opening the Assembly wch. was done accordingly.

12. [Preacher, 1735.] Ordered that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week 1735 and then to meet in Glasshouse Yard in Goswell Street London and that Bror. Morriss do preach a Sermon at the opening of the Assembly and on default that Bror[3] Joseph Mason do preach.

13. [Jemmett custodian of Book.] Ordered that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bror. Isaac Jemmett. and that he give Copies of the proceedings to any who shall[3] desire it paying for the same.

[Page 29.] 14. [Thanks to White's Alley.] *Ordered that the thanks of this Assembly be given to Bror. Mulliner and the Church for the use of the Meeting house and that Bror. Killingworth & Jemmett do the same.

15. [Dublin ministry.] Ordered that Bror Drinkwater & Mercer do draw up a Letter to Mr. Samuell Edwards in Dublin to encourage him in the Ministry as they shall think proper.

---

[8] Interlined, replacing "I."

[Signatures.]

Gra. Killingworth[9]
Joseph Morris
Richd. Barber
Peter Webb
David Dodd
John Smith
Will. Bell
Wm. Gyles
Philip Dening
Isaac Jemmett
Wm. Ashdowne
Wm. King
Matt. Hunter

Benj. Miller[10]
Richd. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer
Saml. Welton[11]
Jo. Jenkins
Benjn. Ingram
James Smith
Geo. Jackman
John Sturch
John Tasker
Amos harrison
Jno. Bending
Joseph Mason
Mat. Randall
Oswald Edwards
Tho. Brittain
Richard Langley
Abrah. Nelson
John Cable
Richard Instance[12]
Willm. Penny
Danll. Beck
Robt. Ingram
Noah Cripps
Robert Powell

[Page 30 blank.]

[Page 31.]
[1735, May 28.]
[Goswell Street.]

*The Names of the Messengers Elders & Brethren Representatives of the Several Churches met at Glasshouse Yard May 28: 1735.

[Members present.]

Benj. Miller
Rich. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer
Wm. Stanger
Wm. Johnson
Bro. Davye
} Mess.

---

[9] A later pencil note marks this column, Reps by J. Morriss. Really Morris was Elder, but all the others were Representatives. The word "by" has the obsolescent sense, "except."

[10] A later pencil note marks the first three signatures, Mess. This is correct. Obviously the signing began here, in the right column, Messengers first, then Elders, then Representatives; and when the foot of the page was reached, the representatives continued in a left column.

[11] A later pencil note marks the names from Welton to Cable inclusive, Elders by R. Langley. Langley was a Representative.

[12] A later pencil note marks the next six, Reps.

Churches Names.

London Churches	
Hart Street	Ja. Smith E. Cha. King Jno. Carter R.
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris E. Phil. Denning Wm. Bell R.
Horslydown	Benj. Ingram E. Grantm. Killingworth Benj. Penney R.
Virgin. Street	Mat. Randall E. Isaac Jemmett Jos. Carpenter R.
Park	
Western Association	A Letter Bro. Miller as above Bro. Mason
Kentish Association	
Cranbrook	
Seven Oaks	Rich. Glover Wm. King R. A Letter
Maidstone	
[Page 32.] *Hyth & Foulkstone	
Dover	Rob. Pyall E.
Marden	
Rolvenden	
Headcorn	A Letter
Athorn	
Isle Thanet	
Canterbury	A Letter
Wingham	
Stealling	
Deal	
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman R.
Chichester	Ja. Spashatt R.
Horsham	John Tasker E.
Ditcherling	Thos. Buckman E. Ja. Broomfield R.
Warbleton	Robt. Mercer as above
Turnershill	
Gloustershire	
Hilsly	Jos. Mason E.
Ireland	
Dublin	
Webstone	Rob. Ingram John Geere R.
Croydon	Peter Webb R.

Essex		
Hornchurch	Abrm. Nelson John King R.	
Waldern		
Coggeshall		
Mazey Isle	Rich. Instance R.	
Braintree		
Halsted		
Burnham		
Castle Heddingham		
*Norwich		[Page 33.]
Yarmouth	Wm. Brooker R.	A Lettr.
St. Ives		
Colchester		
Smalborough		
Hartfordshire		
Barkhamstead		
Bucks.	A case	
Ford	Wm. Goodchild R.	A Lettr.
Ailsbury		
Winslow	Wm. Gyles R.	
Amersham	Dan. Beck R.	
Wickham		
Stony Stratford		
Bedfordshire		
Sundon		
Leighton		
Northamptonshire Ass.	Jon Lee, a Lettr.	
Lincoln Association	Wm. Johnson as above a Lettr	
Middlesex		
Branford	Jos. Cock R.	
Bucks.		
Maidenhead		
Isle of Ely		
March		
Buckinghamshire Association		
Leicester Association	Thos. Davye as above Bro. Welton	

Order'd

Bro. Mercer Chairman [Officers.]

Bro. Miller
Welton Moderators

Bro. Tasker
Beck Scribes

1. [Apology to White's Alley and Park.] Order'd, That Bro. Randall, Ingram, Morris & Smith do acquaint Bro. Mullener and the Church he stands related to, & the Church in the Park, that 'twas their Omission that they were not invited to joyn with the Assembly at this Time, and are now order'd to invite them to the next Assembly.

[Hobbs will not be Messenger.] Bro. Mercer and Drinkwater have given Account that they have treated with Bro. Hobbs and Friends at Canterbury, but can't as yet prevail with them, as concerning his taking upon him the Officer of a Messenger.

[Page 34.] 3. [Northants letter.] *Northamptonshire Letter being read & consider'd, it was order'd that a Committee be appointed further to consider of the same, and accordingly Bro. Miller, Welton, Killingworth and Johnson were order'd to draw up an Answer to the said Letter.

4. [Reply.] The Committee return'd and the Letter by them drawn up being Several Times read, and approv'd by the Assembly it was order'd that the said Letter be transcribed in the Assembly Book, and that their Letter be kept in the Box.

[Second Article expunged.] And whereas the Second Article of our Union Jun. 10. 1731, was incerted wth. no other view than to Satisfie our Brethren in & about Buckinghamshire & Northamptonshire, but it not giving them clear Satisfaction, & furthermore they having desired the aforesaid Article to be expung'd, we have agreed thereunto, and accordingly do expunge the same.

The Letter order'd to be wrote in Answer to the Northamptonshire Letter, is as follows:

From the General Assembly met at London May 28, 29, 1735.

To the Northamptonshire Association:

Beloved Brethren

["We hold the Scriptural Doctrine of the Trinity] We hoped that what we heretofore wrote to you, would have removed all Uneasiness from you, but as you yet desire further Satisfaction, & that we would give you our Sentiments of the Doctrine of the Trinity, either in Scripture or other Words; To shew you therefore, that we have no ambiguous Meaning in what we wrote to you, & that it was not from a disbelief of the Doctrine of the Trinity as contain'd in the Scriptures, that we decline Signing of Articles, but to prevent humane Explanations being imposed upon us, as if of

Divine Authority, we hereby assure you [1]that we firmly believe in the Doctrine of the Trinity, as contained in the Scriptures, even in ye Father Son, and Holy Spirit;[1] that there are [1]Three that bear Record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these Three are One.[1] And, as the Second Article of our Union which was made designedly to give you & our Brethren in and about Buckinghamshire Satisfaction, & to prevent any Doctrines being propagated that might give you Offence, doth not appear to be to your Satisfaction, we are willing at your & their Desire, wholly to expunge the Same: wch. is accordingly done by this Assembly.

["and expunge the Second Article to please you;]

*As to the Second Thing you seem to want Satisfaction in, namely the permitting those that practise Singing of Psalms wth. musical Notes and Conjoyned Voices in the Worship of God, to be Members of our Assembly, we must in Part, at Least, refer you to what we said in our last on that Subject; we then, & yet believing that in so doing we act agreeable to the Constitution of ye Assembly, we being ye Representatives of ye Baptized Churches owning the Doctrine of Universal Redemption, & the Six Principles of Christ, mentioned Heb. 6. 1, 2. all which (as far as we know) are believed and practised by all the Churches that are in Union with us: and therefore, tho' some very few of us practise Singing in a Manner different from us in general, we don't apprehend that to be a Sufficient Reason to exclude them from being Members of the Assembly, there being in our Esteem a great Difference betwixt joyning in Union & Communion with them (as you express it) & permitting them to joyn with us in a General Assembly. It can't reasonably be expected that in this Assembly we should enter into a Dispute about the Manner of Singing in the Service of God, it is plain to us, that Singing of Psalms is frequently mentioned in the New Testament, and the Apostle James expresly says, [1]If any be merry, let him sing Psalms;[1] the Difference is not about Singing, but the Manner of doing it, whether with musical Notes and conjoyned Voices, or otherwise; we could heartily wish & desire we were all of one Mind in this as well as all other Things; but as the Weak-

[Page 35.]

[" but decline to expel those who sing jointly]

[" though most sing otherwise;]

---

[1] These passages underlined.

ness of human Understanding is such, that Things appear in different Lights to different Persons such a Concord is rather to be desired than expected in this World: We therefore, are willing not to impose our Opinion & Practice upon others in Things of this Nature, nor refuse admitting them to our Assembly because they practise a Mode of Worship, which from Scripture doth not appear clear to us all; especially considering that they profess to believe and practise those Things which are the Basis and Foundation on wch. this Assembly unites. ["for our basis is Scriptural only."]

So Brethren, we commend you to God, & to the Word of his Grace, and Subscribe our Selves your Brethren in the Lord, in the Name and Behalf of the whole:

[Page 36.] 5. [Lincoln.] *Having consider'd the Letter from the Lincoln Association signifying their joyning with this Assembly an Answer was wrote in Answer to the same.

6. [Building cases.] Whereas there hath been Letters sent us from Great Yarmouth, Wendover & Harringworth representing to us the Necessity they are under of building Meeting houses at their several Places, the Want they are in of Money to build ye same We recommend to them, (and all our Friends in the like Circumstances) that they either by Messengers appointed[2] for that Purpose or by Letters apply to such Persons and Churches within their reach, to desire their assistance in so good a Work, and we recommend the Case of our Brethren at Great Yarmouth, Wendover, & Harringworth to the Consideration of our Brethren, & all good and well disposed Persons, as worthy of the same, and as what we approve.

7. [Sermon to be printed.] Order'd that Thanks be given to Bro. Morris, & that he be desired to print the Sermon preach'd at the opening of the Assembly, wch. was done accordingly by Bro. Mercer,

8. [Preachers, 1726.] Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week 1736, at Bro. Morris's Meeting house in Glasshouse Yard, Gosswell Street,[3]

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] The London Elders had blundered by not inviting White's Alley and Park churches; the case was peculiar, as White's Alley was the scene of meeting for one or two years, though the church declined to be represented. The relations with Paul's Alley were kept up, a collection being taken this

London, and that Bro. Mason do preach a Sermon at the Opening the Assembly, and in Default Bro. Randall.

9. [Jemmett Custodian of Book.] Order'd that the Assembly Book do remain in the Hands of Bro. Isaac Jemmett, as before.

[Signatures.]

Robt. Mercer
Wm. Johnson
Wm. Stanger
Thos. Davy
Benj. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
Messengers.

Joseph Mason
Philip Dening
Robt. Pyall
Saml. Welton
James Smith
Benjn. Ingram
Abrah. Nelson
Tho. Buckman
Isa. Jemmett
Mat. Randall
John Tasker
Danll. Beck
Ja. Broomfield

Jno. Geere
Joseph Morris
Will. Goodchild
Robt. Ingram
John Carter
Dav. Chapman
Benj. Penney
Jno. King
Will. Beck
Wm. Gyles
Gra. Killingworth
Willm. King
Joseph Cock

[Page 37.] [1736, June 16.] [Goswell Street.]

*The Names of the Messengers Elders and Brethren Representatives of the Several Churches met at Glasshouse Yard June the 16. 1736.

[Members present.]

Rob. Mercer
Wm. Johnson
Jo. Hobbs
Messengers

London
Hart Street
Ja. Smith E.
Robt. Powel
Fra. Cooper } R.

Glasshouse Yard
Jos. Morris E.
Phi. Denning
Wm. Bell } R.

---

year for the children of the late Dr. Gale—the critic of Wall's *History of Infant Baptism*—who was a minister there. A formal invitation was sent on May 23, 1736, to be present at the Assembly, and was accepted. Thus after thirty years the church rejoined its former associates.

	Horsely Down	Benj. Ingram	E.	
		Grant. Killingworth	R.	
		Peter Burket		
	Virginia Street	Mat. Randal	E.	
	Park	John Gladman	R.	
		Jo. Gladman		
	Whits Alley	Abra. Mullener	E.	
		Robt. Plimton	R.	
		Samel. Redling		
	Western Association	Geo. Jackman	E.	
		Jos. Mason		
		John Sturch		
		Jos. Peck	R.	
	Kentish Association			
	Cranbrook	Danel. Dobell	R.	
[Page 38.]	*Seven Oaks			
	Maidstone	Fran. Carpenter	E.	
	Hith and Foulksone			
	Dover	Robt. Piall	E.	
	Marden			
	Rolvenden			
	Headcorn	Danel. Burse	R.	A Letter
	Athorn			
	Isle Thanett			
	Canterbury			
	Wingham			
	Stelling			
	Deal			
	Tunbridge			
	Warbleton	Robt. Mercer	M.	
	Turners Hill			
	Glostershire			
	Hillsly	Jos. Mason	E.	
	Ireland			
	Dublin			
	Webstone	Robt. Ingram	R.	
	Croydon	Peter Web	R.	
	Essex			
	Hornchurch	Abra. Nelson		
		John King		
Page 39.]	*Walden			
	Coggeshall			
	Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance	R.	A Case
	Brantree			
	Halstead			
	Burnham			
	Castle Headingham			

Norwich	
Yarmouth	
St. Ives[1]	
Colchester	Jno. Coolidge E.
Smallborough	
Hartfordshire	
Barkhamstead	
Bucks	
Ford	Jno. Goodchild R.
Alsbury	
Winslow	Jos. Jenkins E. Wm. Gyles R.
Amersham	D. Beck R.
Wickomb	Jos. Hobbs M.
Stoney Stratford	
Bedfordshire	
Sundon	
Leighton	
Northamtonshire Association	
*Lecestershire Association [Page 40.]	
Midlesex	
Brantford	Jos. Cock R.
Maidenhead	
Isle Ely	
March	
Lecester Association	Wm. Johnson
South Mims[2]	Samel. Manning Jno. Rawling

Agreed that Bro. Mercer be Chairman [Officers.]

Bro Johnson &
Mulliner Moderators

Bro Sturch &
Beck Scribes

Recd. and read a Letter from Barnett complaining of the want of a Minister & Meeting house 1. [Need of Barnett.]

Agreed that it be recommended to the Severall Churches related to this Assembly or others that they do exert themselves in order to raise Some Moneys to build a Meeting house at or near Barnett and that they remitt what they gett to the Trustees of Capt. Pierce John's Gift to whom it be referred to look to the Title of the Land or House.[3]

---

[1] A later hand adds, "in Cornwal"; an amazing blunder.

[2] Or Barnet.

And that it be referred to the London Churches to Supply them in the Ministry

2ly. [Headcorn dispute.] Recd. and read a Letter from Headcorn complaining of a Difference between two Members and requesting two Messengers in order to compose that unhappy affair.

Agreed that Bro. Mercer and Drinkwater be desir'd to go to them to Advise in the *Matter and to use their endeavours to make it up or accommodate the same. [Page 41.]

3ly. [Smarden invited.] Agreed that our Bror. Mercer or Drinkwater do write a Letter to the Church at Smarden in Kent to invite that Church to joyn with this Assembly the next year.

4ly. [Ministers needed.] Agreed that all the Ministers make it their care to Affect the Minds of the People (to whom they may stand related) with the want of Ministers and Spiritual Gifts, and to stir up and press them to set apart some time or Times by Fasting and Prayer to the Lord from increase of Spiritual Gifts and that great care be taken to encourage and instruct Persons in so good a work, and to appoint Seasonable Times weekly or Monthly for exercise and Improvemt. and to use all other proper Measures for Supporting and raising[4] a Ministry in the Church.

5ly. [Relief of poor ministers.] In persuance of the former proceedings of the Assembly tis agreed that it be refer'd to the Elders of the London Churches belonging to this Assembly to review a Letter formerly[5] drawn up by Bror. Morris and Randall and approved by the Assembly and to send it to the Severall Churches to represent the State of the Society for relieving poor

---

[3] This trust had been founded in 1698, by a merchant captain from Penzance, now resident in Mile End, and a member of White's Alley, in whose books he figures occasionally. He appointed two trustees from each of the five chief London churches to hold two Essex farms, and after some temporary annuities, to pay £8 to each of these churches, £5 each to Dunning's Alley and Norwich, £15 for travelling expenses of the Messengers, and then to divide the balance among the ministers and poor of their churches. The trustees had some trouble with two members of White's Alley in 1726, settled by elaborate arbitration, and early in 1727 a special meeting was called of the five churches. This was important in one respect, other than that of property, for the trustees offered a definition of the word "General," that it was intended to express the doctrine of Universal Redemption, and the definition was accepted. This repudiated the meaning affixed in 1697 at the "General" Association, and reverted to the original significance.

[4] The word "and" follows, but is crossed out.

[5] Corrected from "formally."

Ministers and to exhort them to make yearly Collections for the same purposes and that they either do it by writing or printing as to them shall seem meet; and also that they press the Severall Churches to make good their places in future Assemblies.

Ordered that Thanks be given to Bro. Mason for his Sermon at the opening the Assembly which was done accordingly 6. [Sermon.]

*Agreed that Bro. Randall be appointed to preach at the opening of the Assembly and on Default Bro. Mulliner [Page 42.] 7. [Preacher for 1737.]

Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday and Thursday in the Whitsunweek which shall be in the year 1737. at [6]Glasshouse Yard Goswell Street London.[6] 8. [Adjourn.]

Ordered that the Assembly book be deposited in the hands of Bro. Isaac Jemmett. 9. [Jemmett Custodian.]

[Signatures.]

Robt. Mercer
Wm. Johnson
Joseph Jenkins
Mat. Randall
James Smith
Joseph Morris
Joseph Mason
Benj. Ingram
Abrah. Nelson
Abra. Mulliner
Geo. Jackman
John Coollidge
John Sturch
Daniel Dobel
Fra. Carpenter
Math. Copper

Robert Pyall
Joseph Cock
Peter Webb
John Gladman
Robert Powell
Gra. Killingworth
Wm. Gyles
Danl. Bass
Danel. Beck
Jos. Gladman
Will. Bell
Reuben Instance Junior
Robert Plimpton
Joseph Peck
Philip Dening
Jno. Goodchild

*The Names and Proceedings of the Generall Assembly met by adjournment at Glasshouse Yard this June 1st & 2d. 1737 [Page 43.] [1737, June 1.] [Goswell Street.

[Members present.]

Robert Mercer }
Wm Stanger } Messengers
Jos Hobbs }

---

[6] Originally written, "the same place as usual."

London		
Hart Street	Jas. Smith Eld.	
	Jno. Brittain Wm. Wheeler	R. No Case
Glasshouse	Jos. Morriss Eld.	
	Wm. Bell Phillip Denning	R. None
Horsleydown	Grantm. Killingworth Robt. Moggeridge	R. No Case
Whites alley	Abra. Mulliner E.	
	Jno. Callow Tho. Kingsnorth	R. None
Virginia Street	Matt. Randall Eld.	
	Bro. Jemmett & Mallden	R. None
Park	Jno. Gladman Jos. Gladman	R. None
Western Association	George Jackman Jno. Sturch Jos. Mason Samel. Fry	Eld. None.
Cranbrook	A Letter from Bro. Miller	
Seven Oakes		
Maidstone		
Hith & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
[Page 44.] *Athorn		
Isle of Thanett		
Canterbury		
Wingham		
Stelling		
Deal		
Tunbridge Wells	Wm. Ashdown Eld.	None
Chichester	Jas Spashutt Benj. Martin	None
Horsham	Jno. Tasker E.	None
Ditcherling		
Warbleton	Robt. Mercer Messenger	
	as above	None
Turners Hill		
Hillsley	Jos. Mason E. as above	None
Webstone		
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	None.
	Jno. Letts R.	

Upminster[1]	Abra. Nellson E. Jno King	None	
Wallden			
Coggeshall			
Merzey Isle	Richd. Instance	a Letter Elder	
*Braintree			[Page 45.]
Hallsted			
Burnham			
Castle Headingham	A Case		
Colchester	Jno. Coolidge	a Letter	
Norwich			
Yarmouth			
St. Ives			
Smallborough			
Barkhampsted			
Ford	Jno. Goodchild R.	None	
Ailesbury			
Winslow	Wm. Gyles R.		
Stone in South Carolina in America		A Letter	
Amersham	D. Beck	None	
Stoney Stratford			
Wicomb	Jos. Hobbs Mess.	as above None	
Leighton			
Sunden			
Leicester Association	A Letter from Wm. Johnson		
Brainford	Jos. Cock R.	None	
Maidenhead			
Isle of Ely			
March			
South Mims			

*Agreed that Brother Mercer be Chairman and also that Bro. Mulliner and Malden be Moderators and that Bro. Sturch Tasker & Beck be Scribes [Page 46.] [Officers.]

Recd. and read a Letter from Stone in South Carolina America and agreed that Bro. Killingworth do draw up an answer to their Letter for their Encouragemt. to Go on in the Ways of Christ. Read & approv'd [Stone, S.C.]

---

[1] The name "Hornchurch" was written, then crossed out, and the new name Upminster was written below. The two places are close together, but the new name appears henceforward. Perhaps there was no meeting-house at either place, but members' houses were used, and most now lived in Upminster. One of Pierce Johns' farms lay close to these villages, and very likely the tenant was a supporter of the General Baptist cause. Similarly Mersea Island lay between Colchester and the other farm.

[Mersea Island.] Recd. and read a Letter from Merzey Isle by their Elder shewing their Earnest Desire of them to promote Piety and the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ ordered that Bro. Instance return the Thanks of this Assembly for their Letter and wishing them to endeavour in their respective places to promote the same End.

[Benjamin Miller.] Recd. & read a Letter from Bro. Miller ordered that Bro. Mercer do write an answer. Which was done read and approv'd

[Leicester letter.] Recd. and read a Letter from Bro. Johnson ordered that Bro. Randall do write and Answer, which was done read & approv'd.

[Colchester thanks.] Recd. and read a Letter of Thanks from Colchester for our assistance to their Elder last year.

[Peterborough building,] As to the Letter from Peterborrow: Agreed that this Assembly desire the several Churches to whom they stand related to make Collections for rebuilding their Meeting House, and to send their collections to Mr. Morris at the Brittish Coffee House in Finch Lane London, or to Mr. Adams at Marsh in the Isle of Ely in ye County of Cambridge, on or before Michaelmas next.

[Relief of poor ministers.] Whereas the 5th Agreemt. last year by some Means was neglected to be put in Practice, it is now agreed that the Elders of the London Churches do review the Letter concerning the Fund, formerly drawn up by Bro. Morris and Randall, to make such Alterations as they shall think necessary, and to send a copy to the several Churches within Three Months.

[Messengers needed.] Agreed that the several Churches belonging to the Assembly do make it their Care to look out Men of suitable Minds and Ability's to serve ye Churches in ye Office of Messengers, and that they return ye Names of such Men to the next Assembly, in order that proper Measures may be taken to obtain them orderly elected and ordained.

[2]Agreed, That the several Churches belonging to this Assembly do make it their Business and care to look out [Page 47.] Men of Suitable Minds and *Abilities to serve the Churches in the Office of Messengers and that they return the Names[2]

[Fuller attendance desired.] Agreed that this Assembly do desire all the Churches to assist by their Ministers & Representatives at all future

---

[2] This paragraph was begun by mistake, being a repetition of the last: it is crossed out in the original. The variations are instructive as to the degree of accuracy aimed at by the scribes.

Assembly's: And we also recommend it to all the Pastors & Ministers of the Churches to fulfill their Ministry, in taking due care of ye Church of God, to be diligent in maintaining sound Doctrine & good Discipline, & that due Care be taken to encourage all Persons endow'd wth. hopeful Gifts for the Work of the Ministry.

[General Baptist Fund.]

Agreed that Thanks be return'd to ye Church at Upminister for their liberal Contribution to ye Fund of wch. Mr. Steed is Treasurer, pursuant to ye Agreemt. of ye last Assembly.

[Randell's Sermon.]

Agreed that Thanks be given to Bro. Randall for his agreeable Sermon at ye Opening of the Assembly wch. was accordingly done.

[Adjourn for 1738.]

Agreed that this Assembly be adjourn'd to ye Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week 1738 at Bro. Morris's Meeting house in Glasshouse Yard, Goswell Street London, & yt Bro. Mullener do preach a Sermon at ye Opening of ye Assembly, & in Default Bro. Maulden.

[Randell Custodian of Book.]

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited into the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Signatures.]

Robt. Mercer
Wm. Stanger
Joseph Hobbs
Abra. Mulliner
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Joseph Mason
James Smith
Samel. Fry
John Tasker
John Sturch
Geo. Jackman

Amos harrison
Abra. Nelson
Wm. Ashdowne
Jos. Gladman
Will. Bell
Gra. Killingworth
Robt. Muggeridge
Jno. King
John Letts
D. Beck
Wm. Gyles
Philip Dening
John Gladman
James Spershott
M. S. harrison

THE GENERAL BAPTIST FUND.

The following letter is apparently a circular sent out to many churches this year. It gives in very lucid form the objects of the General Baptist Fund, which henceforth is patronized by the Assembly. In 1717 a Particular Baptist Fund was formed, which two years later declined to admit Paul's Alley church as a subscriber. The ministers there founded this fund in 1725 on a wider doctrinal basis, and Crosby hoped that this would attract the wider support.

But as in 1738 the younger fund became so closely connected with the Assembly, the Calvinists never gave it any substantial help. This letter is copied from page 69 in the church-book of Bradburn and Sevenoaks, now in the British Museum, Addl. MS. 36,709. A long final paragraph, chiefly a cento of texts, has been omitted.

[Letter to Tunbridge Wells.]

To the Church of Christ at Tunbridge Wells, under the Pastoral Care of our well-beloved Brethren Thomas Benge and William Ashdown

Beloved Brethren,

["The Assembly has long wished to support the ministry]

There having been several consultations in ye General Assembly for some Years past about raising Money in ye Churches towards better supporting ye Ministry & encouraging Spiritual Gifts; and it being considered yt there is a Society in this City wch has Succesfully carried on this good Work several Years; it was thereupon unanimously agreed, "That Collections "should be made yearly by ye several Churches belonging to this Assembly, & be remitted to Mr. Wm: Steed "on Little Tower Hill, to be applied by ye Society of "wch he is Treasurer, for ye Relief of poor Ministers, "& for the Improvement of Gifted Brethren."

["and now commends the General Baptist Fund]

It will not be doubted but this Society is conveniently situated to hold a Correspondence wth ye Churches in every part of ye Kingdom, & can therefore easily receive ye Collections from thence, & distribute ym where there is occasion. But for your more entire Satisfaction it was order'd, That a particular Acct. of their Design & manner of Proceeding should be drawn up & sent to the Several Churches: In pursuance of wch Order we now send it you, not doubting but you will approve the Design of ye Society, & strengthen ye Hands of ye Managers by your hearty Concurrence.

["whose plan and methods are set forth.]

["Managers congregational]

The Society consists of ye Elders of Six Congregations & as many Messengers as each of them has a right to send. A Congregation wch contributed £20 at first & collects £5. yearly, has a right to send one Messenger. A Congregation wch contributed £40, & collects £10. yearly, sends two Messengers; If a Church raised £60. & brings yearly £15. it has a right to send three Messengers; but no Church may send more than three. These Messengers or Managers from ye Churches are chosen every Year. But if any Person gives to the Society £50. being a Baptist, he has a right to be a

["and personal]

Manager as long as he lives; & he who gives £5. is qualified to be a Manager for one Year, & so long as he continues to give Five Pounds a year.

[" monthly meetings.]

The Society has agreed to meet Statedly on ye First Monday in every Month, & Seven Managers, Five of them not being Ministers, make a Board to do Business, & their Proceedings are entered in a Minute Book. Every one bears his own Expence.

[" Annual collections and distribution]

The Yearly Collections of ye Churches are appointed to be made against ye 25th of March yt they may be brought to ye Board on ye next stated Meeting of ye Society. The Distribution is now fixt to be every Year on ye First Monday in May: 'Tis requisite therefore yt ye Money collected by ye Churches or given by private Persons in ye Countrey, should be remitted to Mr. Steed ye Treasurer, or to Some *Some other Member of the Society, before yt Time, that it may be immediately applied according to their Intention.

[69 verso.]

[" half to poor Elders]

One half of ye yearly Dividend is distributed among poor Ministers (chiefly in the Countrey) who are Elders, or Stated Preachers. Out of those Ministers who are recommended to the Society, the most necessitous are chosen as near as can be judged. If any Minister cannot be taken in at the first Recommendation, his name is minuted down, in order to be admitted—when there is a Vacancy, or the Society can enlarge the Dividend. We judged it proper to mention this, yt none of our Friends in ye Countrey may take it amiss if the Minister by them recommended is not taken in at the first, since they may be assured his Case will be considered ye next Opportunity.

[" half in books to young ministers.]

The other half of ye yearly Dividend is distributed to young Ministers, and laid out on such Books or other Means wch they want for ye Improvemt. of their Knowledge, that with the Blessing of Almighty God, they may be enabled to exercise their Ministry wth Reputation & Success. And we are so sensible of ye great good done this Way, that we have Cause to rejoice in its being one part of our Design. However, if this be not approved by any Churches or particular Persons in ye Countrey, we hope it will not hinder them from sending up their Collections & Gifts; since they may, in all respects, order how their Money shall be disposed of by ye Society, & their Directions will be punctually observed. But if they send no Directions, ye Managers will apply it in ye manner wch they judge will best promote their good Design.

["Accounts audited."] An exact Acct. is kept by ye Treasurer of all Moneys received & distributed, which is examined every Year by a Committee of Managers. And this Acct. may, no doubt, be inspected, if desired, by any Persons ye General Assembly shall depute: whereby ye Churches will be satisfied yt all ye Money wch ye Society receives, and their own in particular, is rightly & faithfully applied.

[Paragraph of exhortation omitted.]

Your affectionate Brethren
and Servants in the Lord,

[Signatures.]
Abra: Mulliner
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris

London Octobr ye 3d 1737

[Page 48.] [1738, May 24.] [Goswell Street.] *The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Glasshouse Yard, Goswell Street, London May 24th & 25th 1738, as follows.

[Members present.]
Benj. Miller
Rich. Drinkwater
Wm. Johnson
Joseph Hobbs
} Messengers

Glasshouse Yard
Jos. Morris E.
Wm. Bell
Phil. Denning } R.

Horslydown
Samel. Fry E.
Grantm. Killingworth
John Letts } R.

Whites Alley
Abrm. Mulliner E.
John Callow
John Barton } R.

Virgin. Street
Matt. Randall E.
John Maulden
Isaac Jemmett } R.

Park
John Gladman
Jos. Gladman } R.

Western Association	Benj. Miller ut Supra Geo. Jackman E.	
Cranbrook	Richd. Glover Jos. Edwards R. A Letter	
Maidstone		
Hith & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden	Wm. Knowlden A Letter	
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn		
Isle Thanett		
Canterbury		
Wingham		
Stelling		
Deal		
Tunbridge Wells	Mat. Copper A Letter	
Chichester	Richd. Drinkwater Supra Benj. Martin R.	
Horsham	Jon Tasker E.	
Ditcherling		
Warbleton	John Gossling E.	
Turnershill		
Hilsly		
Webstone	Jon. Geere Robt. Barret R.	
Croydon		
Upminster	Abrm. Nelson E. John King R.	
Wallden		
Coggeshall		
Mazey Isle		
Braintree		
Halsted	Richd. Instance E.	
Burnham	John Fermin	
Castleheddingham	A Letter	
Sudbury		
Colchester		
Norwich		
Yarmouth		
St. Ives		
Smalborough		
Barkhampsted		
Ford	Jon. Goodchild R.	
*Aylsbury		[Page 49.]
Winslow		
Amersham	Danel. Beck R.	

Stony Stratford	
Wickham	Jos. Hobbs Supra
Leighton	
Sundon	
Leicester Association	
Brainford	
Maidenhead	
Isle of Ely	
March	
Southmims or Barnett	Samuel Manning a case
Lincoln Assoc.	Wm. Johnson Supra
Stone in South Carolina	A Letter

Agreed

[Officers.]

Bro. Drinkwater	Chairman
Bro. Randall Bro. Morris	Moderators
Bro. Tasker Bro. Beck	Scribes

[Letters.] Received and read a Letter from Seven Oaks

Another from Tunbridge Wells.

One from Marden. One from the Essex Association.

Another from Stone in South Carolina.

Order'd that Bro. Randall do draw up a Letter in Answer to the said Letter from Stone. Done and approved.

[Barnet.] A Case from the Church at Barnett being laid before the Assembly, it was desired that the Churches in London & particularly the Churches in Horslydown & Glasshouse Yard, do make it their Care to Support them in the Ministry as often as they can.

[General Baptist Fund for poor ministers.] Whereas a Letter giving an Acct. of the Society for relieving poor Ministers & encouraging young Gifts have been sent to several Churches by Bro. Mulliner, Randall & Morris, according to the Agreement of the Assembly last Year & whereas the said Letter hath met with good Success in some Places, it is unanimously agreed that our *Said Brethren shall send Letters to the other Churches where they have not yet sent it; & this Assembly desires that the Ministers of the several Churches do promote Collections for those valuable Ends as much as they can. [Page 50.]

[Marden.] Received and read a Letter from Marden, and order'd that a Letter be wrote to the said Church by Bro. Miller, which was done and approved; & order'd that Bro. Mercer and Drinkwater do visit that Church & to endeavour their Reconciliation.

Order'd that Thanks be given to Bro. Mulliner for his Sermon at the Opening of ye Assembly. which was done accordingly.

Agreed that the London Elders do invite the other Churches in Town to joyn with this Assembly.[1]

Order'd that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week, at Brother Morris's Meeting house, in Glasshouse Yard, Gosswel Street London, in the Year of our Lord 1739: and that Bro. Maulden do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, & in Default Bro. Fry.

---

[1] "The other Churches in Town" specifies nothing as to doctrine. Since the reunion nothing had been said about the Confession of 1660–1663, whether in the original form, or in Grantham's enlargement, or in Hooke's revision. The churches were shrinking in number and in size. High Hall had migrated in 1717 to Park, and its Elder, John Jenkins the ribbon-weaver, had now ceased work, if indeed he were not dead. Dunning's Alley had split, and in 1729 Pierce Johns' trustees voted that it was extinct. This very year Hart Street dissolved, and its Elder James Smith united with White's Alley as a private member. Mill Yard had had a curious experience, for about 1721 the Calvinistic Sabbatarian Baptists, once under Joseph Stennett, had joined these General Sabbatarian Baptists; but when Robert Cornwaite became Elder in 1726, the Calvinists drew off, objecting to his Socinian views. The Joseph Davis Charity sufficed however to keep it alive. There were also two other churches which had once been distinctly Calvinistic, but were less sure of their ground. (1) Gosnold's church at Paul's Alley in the Barbican, served by Thomas Plant, Joseph Stennett and Richard Allen, had in 1700 taken leave of Stennett expressly because he was a Calvinist; though Allen joined the Calvinistic Association in 1705, two churches at once withdrew from it. The Calvinist element was strengthened in 1712 by the adhesion of Humphrey Burroughs and 24 other members from the dissolved church at Pennington Street (Virginia Street), so that by 1717 the church put up splendid new premises with a baptistery, largely at the expense of the Hollis family, it had 220 members, and was rich in ministers, Nathanael Gale and Joseph Burroughs being chief. Yet in 1719 the Particular Baptist Fund declined to admit the church to membership. Five years later, an Independent minister from Trowbridge, James Foster, was baptized and associated with Burroughs in the pastorate, and Isaac Kimber from the General Baptist church at Nantwich soon became assistant. An outsider classed all three ministers in 1731 as Socinian, but they were distinctly Baptist, and objected to mixed communion. A generation was yet to elapse before this church responded in any degree to overtures from the Assembly, though it was on good terms with White's Alley. (2) The great original Particular Baptist church of 1633 had subdivided extensively; two of the branches reunited in 1707 at Artillery Lane, Spitalfields, deliberately sanctioning hymns at the service. Nathanael Hodges was

Lastly.

Order'd that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Signatures.]

Joseph Edwards
Jno. Geere
Isa. Jemmett
James Smith
John Gladman
Geo. Jackman
William Knowldon
John Tasker
G. Killingworth
Mat. Randall
Jno. King
Philip Dening
Robt. Barret
John Letter
Richd. Drinkwater
Benjn. Miller
Wm. Johnson
Joseph Hobbs
Abra. Mulliner
Joseph Morris

---

the minister then, and the church was expressly invited to join the Particular Baptist Fund in 1717, though two years later he declined to sign a Trinitarian declaration. When he resigned, being rich and a knight, Dr. Kinch from Paul's Alley followed in 1721, and he did not join the Coffee-house Society of Calvinistic Baptist ministers. Ten years later he was succeeded by John Weatherley from Taunton, and under him the character of the church insensibly altered, Burroughs and Kimber being close friends of Weatherley. About this time the congregation shifted to Pinners' Hall, using it in the afternoon only. But not till 1754 were the links with the General Baptists tightened by calling Richard Barron from Deptford, and not till 1771 did the minister actually join the Assembly. These facts show the increasing difficulty as to ministers; again and again the country was drained of its best men to serve the town, and the gallant attempts of White's Alley to foster a college in London, repeated in 1725, came to nothing. The few ministers served two or three churches apiece as the older men died off, while the churches died or fused or shared the same building. It was not yet understood that while the practice of Believers' Baptism formed a certain bond between the General Baptists and the Particulars, yet the gulf was very real and very deep. Thomas Crosby was doing his best to confuse together the two groups, greatly to the misleading of subsequent generations. When two baptisteries were built in 1717, each group had subscribed to each building; and Benjamin Stinton had done his best to unite the ministers in a Society meeting monthly at a Coffee-house. But the Particular Baptists persisted in holding aloof, founding a Fund limited to Calvinists, and in 1724 a new Coffee-house Society which soon drew off all their ministers from Stinton's. Thus in 1730 this original—the British—reorganized, and though there never was any rule to exclude any for doctrinal reasons, and invitations were sent to Rhudd Brine and Dew, yet in practice it was even at that date a fraternal for the General Baptist ministers only. While however the two parties were blaming one another for Antinomianism and Socinianism, religion was at a very low ebb. Whitefield had begun preaching in 1736, John Wesley was to be drawn into the work in 1739, but his fervent Arminianism failed to revitalize the Confession of 1660, his ardent evangelism failed to excite the Messengers to renewed itinerancy, his genius for organization left the Assembly untouched.

Abrah Nelson
Jos. Gladman
Math. Copper
Will. Bell
Danel Beck
Jno. Goodchild

Samel. Fry
Rich. Instance
John Gosling

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Glasshouse Yard Goswell Street London June the 13th and 14th Anno 1739. [Page 51.] [1739, June 13.] [Goswell Street.]

[Members present.]

Benj. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer } Messenger

Glasshouseyard	Jos. Morris E.	
	Philip Denning Wm. Bell	R.
Horslydown	Sam. Fry E.	
	Grantm. Killingworth John Brittain	R.
Whites Alley[1]	Jon. Barton Wm. Plympton	A case

---

[1] Abraham Mulliner died this year, after being Elder since 1703. The church dropped out of touch with the Assembly till 1772, under the following circumstances. John Ashworth was invited to the pastorate in November 1739 (the summary in the church book written last century confounds him with his brother Thomas). John Ashworth was son of Richard Ashworth, a Calvinistic Baptist minister at Cloughfold in Lancashire, who had gone to help the General Baptist church at Nantwich, which was seeking fellowship rather on geographical than on doctrinal affinities. He declined to come to White's Alley if it insisted that Laying on of hands was necessary after baptism. To secure him they waived the Fourth Principle, and therefore of course forfeited their place in this Assembly. He was ordained on 3 July, 1740 by Fry, Foster, Burroughs and Weatherley, a set of names that shows the White's Alley, Horslydown, Paul's Alley, and Artillery Lane churches already in close touch. The trustees of Pierce Johns' charity were offended, and apparently stopped supplies for the time. Ashworth however died between April and October 1742, and after the services had been conducted by Richard Barron and Charles Bulkley, the latter was installed as pastor on 4 April 1743, being then only 24 years old. Next year the church arranged with Paul's Alley for partial use of those premises, as the lease of White's Alley from the Merchant Tailors was soon expiring, and a fine of £350 was to be expected if renewal were desired. From this time the church apparently sank into inactivity for fifty years.

Virgin Street	Mat. Randall	E.
	Isaac Jemmett Benj. White	R.
Park	John Gladman John Rust	R.
Western Association	Benj. Miller Geo. Jackman Wm. Sprake John Sturch	Supra A Letter
Cranbrook	A Letter	
Maidstone	Fra. Carpenter	E.
Hyth & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn[2]		
Isle of Thannet[2]		
Sevenoaks		
Canterbury		
Stelling		
Deal		
Tunbridge Wells	Wm. Ashdown	E.
Chichester	R. Drinkwater	
Horsham	Jon. Tasker	E.
Ditcherling		
Warbleton	Robt. Mercer	
Turnershill		
Hilsley		
Webstone	Robt. Barrett	E.
	Wm. Jackson	R.
	Money for the Fund.	
Croydon		
Upminster	Jon. King	R.
	Money for ye Fund	
Walden		

---

[2] The churches in East Kent were in great local trouble. A quarrel at Ramsgate in the Isle of Thanett resulted in a special meeting being held on 14th July 1738, when John Hobbs of Canterbury, Robert Pyall of Dover, John Kingsford of Wingham and Thomas Benge a minister of Canterbury vainly tried to make peace. They were appealed from, Drinkwater and Mercer being invoked, and it was 1743 before the upholder of ancient standards was expelled as a scandal. Meanwhile the Elders were dying, and ministers were not coming forward. Eythorn and Sandwich were destitute, and Ramsgate seems to have borne the burden of all.

Coggeshall	
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance
Brantree	2 Letters & Money
Halsted	for ye fund
Burnham	
Castle Heddingham	
Sudbury	
Colchester	A Letter
Norwich	
Yarmouth	
St. Ives	
Smallborough	
Barkhampsted	
Aylsbury	
Winslow	Wm. Gyles
Amersham	Dan. Beck R.
Stony Stratford	
*Wickham	Wm. East R.
Leighton	
Sundon	
Leicester Association	
Brainford	Jos. Cock
Maidenhead	
Isle of Ely	
March	
Southmims or Barnett	Jon. Rawlings
Lincoln Association	
Stone Carolina	
Ford	Jon. Goodchild.

[Page 52.]

Agreed as followeth

[Officers.]

Bro. Miller	Chairman
Bro. Mercer Bro. Drinkwater	Moderators
Bro. Tasker Bro. Beck Bro. Sturch	Scribes

[Triverton.] Agreed that the Affair of the Tiverton Letter concerning Mrs. Sampson's House be refer'd to Bro. Miller, Drinkwater and Mercer, and that they write a Letter to her to advise her as they shall think proper.[3]

---

[3] The church at Tiverton is remarkable, and fortunately has had its history well explored lately by the present minister, H. B. Case. Originally it was General Baptist, owing its origin to John Smyth's book on Infant Baptism as the mark or "Character of the Beast." Correspondence with Amsterdam in 1624-1633 reveals it as one of the earliest English churches. But during the

[South Carolina.]

Agreed that Mr. Haywood be ordained by the Messengers of this Assembly to go and preach the Gospel in South Carolina in the Capacity of a Messenger.

[Maulden Messenger ?]

Agreed unanimously that Bro. Maulden be desired to accept the Office of a Messenger, and that Bro. Miller, Drinkwater and Mercer be appointed to treat with him to Morrow in order thereunto.

Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Mr. Maulden for his agreeable Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly by the Persons last mentioned, and that they also desire him to print the same.

[Page 53.]

*Agreed that this Assembly be Adjourned to the Wednesday and Thursday in the Whitsun Week 1740 at Bro. Morris's Meetinghouse at Glasshouse Yard, Goswell Street, London; and that Bro, Fry be appointed to preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, and in Default Bro. - Sprake.

And lastly, agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Signatures.]

Philip Dening
Jhon Gladman
Wm. Gyles
John Brittain
Gra. Killingworth
Will. Bell
John Barton
William Plimpton
John Goodchild
Wm. East
Danel. Beck
Wm. Jackson
Jos. Cock

Jno. King
John Rust
Benjn. Miller
Richd. Drinkwater
Robt. Mercer
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
John Sturch
John Tasker
Richd. Instance
Wm. Sprake
Geo. Jackman
Robt. Barrett

Commonwealth, probably owing to the labours of Thomas Collier, it adopted Calvinistic views, and held them till 1714. In this year James Sampson was invited from Exeter, which was the headquarters of the new Socinian movement, and unrest developed in the church, culminating in 1728 by his resignation on advice. For nine years he preached in the suburb of West Exe, and of course gathered a new church including many of his former hearers; it was in this phase that he appeared at the Assembly in 1731. He had now come to London. Apparently there was trouble about the manse; in 1728 the Calvinists had acquired it from the owner, a colonist in Maryland, and by 1732 they had remodelled the property, erecting a handsome meeting house at a cost of £328, and ordaining a new pastor from Moretonhampstead next year.

[In Maitland's History of London, published 1739, there are at page 516 particulars of the places of worship. While there may be errors absolutely, the relative strength may be compared from the following summary:—Church of England 68: Baptist 33: Presbyterian 28: Independent 26: Friends 12: Various 15: French 21: German 8: Jews 3. The Baptist places mentioned, supplied with the names of the pastors, are arranged alphabetically here: those connected sooner or later with the General Assembly are marked *.

Angel alley, Whitechapel	Edward Ridgeway since 1716
Artillery street, Spittlefields	John Weatherley from Taunton since 1731
Beech lane, near Whitecross street	John Pryer, and Mr. Lee
Brewers' hall, Addle street	
Cherry-garden lane, Rotherhithe	Joseph Matthews
Church lane, Limehouse	David Rees had died 1734
Collier's rents, White street, Southwark	Joseph Harrington since 1725
Devonshire Square, Bishopsgate street	George Braithwaite since 1734
Dipping alley, Horselydown	Clendon Dawkes for morning ?
Eagle street, Red Lion street, Holborn	Andrew Gifford since 1734
*Fair street, Horselydown	Samuel Fry, from Milborne Port
Flower-de-luce, Tooley street	[? used since 1724]
Glass-house street, Swallow street [Westminster]	William Morton since 1733
*Glass-house yard, Pickax street [Goswell street]	[Joseph Morris]
Goat-yard passage, Horselydown	John Gill since 1720
Johnson's street, Old Gravel lane	[dying since John Rhudd, 1734]
Little Wild street, Great Wild street	Joseph Stennett, junior, from Exeter, 1737
Little Wood street, Cripplegate	John Brine since 1730 Edmund Townsend for Seventh-day since 1727
Maze Pond street, Southwark	Abraham West, died this year
Maidenhead court, Great Eastcheap	Samuel Dew, from Weston Penyard, since 1731
*Mill yard, Ragfair	Robert Cornwaite since 1726, and Peter Russell since 1730
New way, Maze, Southwark	
*Paul's alley, Redcross street [Barbican]	Joseph Burroughs since 1718, and James Foster since 1724
*Pennington's street, Virginia street	Matthew Randall since 1722
*Pepper street, Southwark [Park]	Samuel Hands succeeding George Mulliner
Rosemary branch, Rosemary lane	Samuel Wilson since 1726
*Rotherhithe [? Deptford]	Richard Barron ?
St. John's court, Little Hart street [just dissolved]	
Sheer's alley, White street, Southwark	
Snowfields	
Uni[c]o[r]n yard, Horselydown lane	Thomas Flower since 1736
Vinegar row, Shoreditch fields	
*White's alley, Little Moorfields	Abraham Mulliner died this year

It will be seen that in the fifty years since 1689, the General Baptists had made no progress in London; one church had been founded, but was just expiring; another had died out; their places would soon be supplied by two ancient churches joining the Assembly, but this was no real increase.]

[Page 54.] *The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly mett by
[1740, May 28.] adjournment at Glasshouse Yard Goswell Street London May
[Goswell Street.] 28 & 29th 1740

[Members present.]

Richd. Drinkwater	Messenger	
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morriss	E.
	Jno. Neal Wm. Bell	R.
Horsleydown	Samel Fry	E.
	Robt. Muggeridge Jos. Likely	R.
Virginia Street	Matt. Randall	E.
	Jno. Malden Isaac Jemmett	R.
Park	Jno. Gladman Jno. Rust	R.
Western Association	A Letter another	
Cranbrook		
Maidstone		
Hith & foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn		
Isle of Thanett		
Wingham		
Canterbury		
Stelling		
Deal		
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman	R.
	Letter	
Chichester	Richd. Drinkwater as above	M
Turners Hill		
Horsham	Jno. Tasker	E.
	Charles Habgood	R.
Ditcherling	Robt. Chatfield Wm. Martin	R. Letter
Wallden		
Warbleton	Jno. Gosline	E.
Turners Hill		

Hillsley	Wm. Marston R. Letter	
Webstone	Jno. Geere E.	
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	
Upminster	Abra. Nellson E.	
	Jno. King R.	
Coggeshall	Essex Association Richd. Instance E. Jno. Cable Letter	
Merzey Isle		
Braintree		
Halsted		
Burnham		
Castle Headingham		
Sudbery		
Colchester		
Wallden		
Norwich		
Yarmouth		
St. Ives		
Smallborough		
Barkhampsted		
Ailesbury		
Seven Oaks	Richd. Glover Letter	
Winslow	Wm. Gyles R.	
*Amersham	D. Beck R.	[Page 55.]
	Henry Hobbs Case	
Stoney Stratford		
Wickham	Thos. Piety R. Case	
Leighton		
Sundon		
Ford	Jno. Goodchild R.	
Northamptonshire Association		
Leicestershire Association		
Brainford		
Maidenhead		
Isle of Ely		
March		
South Mims		
Stone South Carolina		

After seeking the Lord by Prayer agreed as followeth [Officers.]

Bro. Drinkwater be Chairman

Bro. Randall & Morriss Moderators

Bro. Tasker & Beck Scribes

Agreed that Bro. Drinkwater, Morris, Gyles & Geere do this Evening discourse with Bro. Maulden, in order to 1. [Maulden Messenger ?]

desire[1] and perswade him to take upon him the Office of a Messenger according to ye Agreemt. of the Assembly last Year.

2. [Letters.] Several Letters being read which were sent to the Assembly, 'twas agreed that Bro. Miller's Letter, and the Lettr. from Seven Oakes [2]& Tunbridge Wells[2] should be further considered.

3. [High Wycombe.] As to the Request of High Wickham, agreed that a Messenger or Messengers, be sent down to ordain some Deacons in that Church. which was[3] agreed to & by Bro. Drinkwater.

4. [Amersham.] Amersham's Request to be considered, to know whether a person can be regularly called to the Office of an Elder whose Wife is not a Member of the Church.

[4]Agreed also that a Messenger go to Amersham to ordain Deacons.[4]

5. [Kent and Sussex.] Agreed that Bro. Morris do write a Letter to the Churches in Kent and Sussex, to exhort them to hold an Association, & look round them in order to nominate and appoint some fit Persons for the Messengers Office. and likewise to advise the Churches to keep a Day of fasting in Consideration of the Decay of Religion the abounding of Sin the present Dearth and threatning war as mentioned in the Letter from Seven Oakes and that the Association be holden on the Wednesday in Easter week at Tunbridge Wells

[Page 56.] 6. [Day of fasting.] *Agreed that a Day of Humiliation by fasting & prayer be observed by the Severall Churches as well as those of Kent and Sussex as above mentioned

7. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Fry for his agreeable Sermon at the opening the Assembly which was done accordingly.

8. Agreed that Bro. Sprake do preach at the opening the Assembly next year and on Default Bro. Drinkwater

9. Agreed also that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday and thursday in the Whitson week which shall be in the year 1741

Lastly agreed that the Assembly book be deposited with Bro. Randall

---

[1] The word "him" followed, but was crossed out.

[2] Three words interlined.

[3] The word "accordingly" followed, but was crossed out.

[4] This sentence was added.

[Signatures.]

John Gladman
John Rust
Robt. Mugridge
Joseph Knightly
Dav. Chapman
Charles Habgood
Richd. Drinkwater
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Jno. Geere
John Tasker
John Gosling
Abrah. Nelson
John Cable
Elders
Isaac Jemmett
Tho. Piety
John Goodchild
Henry Hobbs
Rich. Glover

William Marston
Wm. Gyles
Robt. Chatfeild
Will Warten
Jno. King
Danel Beck

*The Names of the Messengers Elders & Representatives met at Glasshouse Yard Goswel Street London, May the 20 1741

[Page 57.]
[1741, May 20.]
[Goswell Street.]

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard	Joseph Morris	Elder
	Phil. Denning Danl. Prentise	R.
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	E.
	John Letter John Brittain	R.
Virgin Street	Mat. Randall	E.
	Isaac Jemmett Saml. Keely	R.
Park		
West Association	Geo. Jackman	E.
Cranbrook		
Maidstone		
Hyth & Foulkston		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn		

Isle of Thannet.	John Bush E.
Wingham	
Canterbury	
Stelling	
Deal	
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman R.
Chichester	Richd. Drinkwater Messenger
Turnershill	Griffel English E.
Horsham	John Tasker E. Thos. Carpenter } R. Abram. Nettlefold } R.
Ditcherling	
Walden	John Ede E.
Warbleton	
Hilsley	
Webstone	
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.
Upminster	John King R.
Coggeshal	Hen. Turner A Letter
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E. A Letter
Braintree	
Halsted	
Burnham	Stace A Case
Castle heddingham	
Sudbury	
Colchester	
Norwich	
[Page 58.] *Yarmouth	
St. Ives	
Smalborough	
Barkhamsted	
Aylsbury	
Seven Oakes	Richd. Glover } R. A Letter Wm. King } R. A Letter
Winslow	William Gyles R.
Amersham	Dan. Beck E.
Marsh	
Southmims	
Stony Stratford	
Wickham	
Leighton	
Sundon	
Ford	
Northampton Association	

Leicester Association[1]
Branford
Maidenhead
Isle of Ely
Stony Stratford[2]
Lincoln Association
Smarden John Austen E.

[Officers.]

Joseph Morris	Chairman
Matthew Randal Amos Harrison	Moderators
John Tasker Daniel Beck	Scribes

1. [Begging letters discountenanced.] Recd. and read a Letter from Mazey Island concerning a poor Man who had his house burnt down by Fire, and agreed that this Assembly disapproves such Letters, and that Bro. Instance do use his Endeavours to assist the poor Man in that Case.

2. [Castle Headingham.] Recd. and read a Letter from Castleheddingham about building a Meetinghouse, & agreed that the Assembly do recommend their Case to the Several Churches, and to desire them to make Collections on that Account; and that what Money is gathered by ye Churches should be remitted to Mr. Randall, in Well Close Square London.

[Page 59.] 3. [Chatham.] *As to the Case from Chatham, requesting to have a Minister found out and sent to settle with them; agreed that it be left to the Messengers, & Elders of the London Churches, for them to endeavour to look out one for them.

4. [Kentish Messengers.] As to the Case of the Kentish Association concerning their Choice of Messengers, the Assembly approves thereof, and desires that they should proceed according to the Conclusion of ye sd. Association

5. [Burnham.] As to the Case from Burnham, agreed that Bro. Drinkwater, & such other as he shall approve, do go to Burnham, & endeavour to reconcile & settle yt matter.

---

[1] No representative from Leicester. This year there began a movement at Ratby and Normanton which in fourteen years became Baptist, and by 1770 had completely distanced the Leicester Association, becoming the nucleus of the New Connexion.

[2] The words "in South Carolina" followed, but were crossed out. The scribe ought to have entered "Stone in South Carolina," but blundered; then his alteration made matters worse, for Stony Stratford had already been entered above.

6. The Assembly return'd their Thanks to Mr. Drinkwater for his agreeable Sermon at the Opening of ye Assembly.

7. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week, in the Year of our Lord, 1742, at Bro. Morris's Meeting house, at Glasshouse Yard, Goswell Street, London; and that Bro. Amos Harrison do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, & in Default Bro. Geo. Jackman.

8. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Signatures.]

Rich. Glover
Philip Dening
John Brittain
Dav. Chapman
Thos. Carpenter
Wm. Gyles
John Gladman
Richd. Drinkwater
Joseph Morris

Mat. Randall
Samel. Fry
Amos Harrison
Geo. Jackman
John Bush
Richard Instance
Griffell English
Danel. Beck
John Tasker

Divers others not present at signing the Book

[Page 60.]
1742, June 9.]
[Goswell Street.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Glasshouse Yard Goswell Street London, June 9, 10: 1742

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	E.
	Phil. Denning Wm. Bell	R.
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	E.
	Robt. Muggeridge Jos. Nightly	R.
Virgin Street now Mill Yard[1]	Mat. Randall	E.
	John Maulden Sam. Keely	R.
Park	Saml. Hands John Gladman John Rust	R.

---

[1] Mill yard, as shown by Maitland's list, had long housed a Baptist church. This was a Seventh-day congregation, and therefore the premises were available on Sunday for another church. The Virginia street lease expired in 1741 at Lady-day, and the homeless church arranged to pay £10 a year for the use of Mill yard on Sundays. The system of leasing, involving a large sum for the privilege of renewal, besides the annual rent, is responsible for the extinction of many Baptist churches which made no sinking fund or accumulated nothing against the expiry of leases.

Western Association		
Cranbrook		
Maidstone		
Hith & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn		
Isle Thanet	John Bush	Elder
Wingham		
Canterbury		
Stelling		
Deal		
Seven Oaks	Jos. Edwards Richd. Glover	R.
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman	R.
Chichester	Rd. Drinkwater	Mess.
Turnershill		
Horsham	John Tasker	E
Ditcherling	Mat. Hunter Thos. Hunter	R.
Walden		
Warbleton		
Hilsly	Wm. Marston	E.
Webstone	John Geere	E.
Croydon	Amos Harrison Thos. Budgen	E. R.
Upminster	John King	R.
Coggshall		
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance	E.
Braintree		
Halsted		
Burnham		
Castleheddingham		
Sudbury		
Colchester		
Norwich		
Yarmouth		
St. Ives		
Smalborough		
Barkhampsted		
Aylsbury		
Stony Stratford		
High Wickham		
Amersham	Danl. Beck	E.
Ford		

Winslow	Wm. Gyles R.
Leighton	
Sundon	
Branford	
Maidenhead	Jon. Hilldrop E.
Isle Ely	
Marsh	
Southmims	
Smarden	
Crediton	Jon. Sturch E. Edmd. Kingdon
Northampton Assoc.	
Leicester Assoc.	
Lincoln Assoc.	
Stone in South Carolina	
Chatham	

[Page 61.] *Agreed :

[Officers.] Bro. Drinkwater Chairman

Bro. Randall, Gyles Moderators

1. [Messengers.] Bro. Maulden, Bro. Gyles & Bro. Bush were chosen by the Assembly as Persons qualified for the Messengers Office, and order'd that Bro. Drinkwater, Bro. Morris, Bro. Fry, Bro. Geere and Bro. Instance do treat with them in order to prevail with them to accept of the same.

2. The said Brethren[2] were treated with accordingly, and as to Bro. Maulden, his Ill State of Health was thought to be a reasonable Excuse: As to Bro. Gyles and Bro. Bush they were also treated with, who after a considerable Time gave us room to hope that when some few Difficulties were removed they would pursuant to the Call of the Assembly submit to Ordination.

3. [Ordination of Bush ?] Order'd that Bro: Drinkwater do visit the Church in the Isle of Thannet and get them to consent to Bro. Bush's being ordain'd, and to inform himself of the Mind and Judgment of the Churches in Kent and Sussex, and upon a general Approbation, and the consent of Bro. Bush to take the first Opportunity for his and ye Ordination of others elected to the said Office.

4. [Northants.] Whereas this Assembly hath had a Melancholy Account of the Death of several Pastors and ministering Brethren

---

[2] The word "being" followed, but was crossed out.

in Northamptonshire, and that the Churches there are in a Necessitous Condition, order'd that Bro. Drinkwater and Bro. Gyles do visit the said Churches the first Opportunity, and administer all that Consolation, Instruction and Advice to them as is necessary,[3] to get those Things in Order which are wanting.

5. [Ordination of Gyles?] Order'd that Bro. Drinkwater[4] do then treat with Bro. Gyles and endeavour to remove his Objections, and also to obtain the Consent of the Church at Winslow to Bro. Gyles's being ordain'd to the Office of a Messenger, and on his Acceptance, to take the first Opportunity for his Ordination.

6. [Visitation.] Agreed that Bro. Gyles do write to the Churches in Northamptonshire to acquaint them of the Assembly's Agreement that they be visited as above.[5]

7. Order'd that the Thanks of the Assembly be given to Brother Harrison for his Agreeable Sermon at the Opening of ye Assembly, which was done accordingly by Bro. Drinkwater.

8. Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday and Thursday in the Whitsun Week, 1743, at Bro. Morris's Meeting House, in Glasshouse Yard, Goswel Street, London, and that Bro. Tasker do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, and in Default Bro. Beck.

9. That the Assembly Book be deposited in ye hands of Bro. Randall

*Subscribed by us [Page 62.]

[Signatures.]

Dav. Chapman
Matt. Hunter
Philip Dening
John Gladman
Will. Bell
John Rust
Edmd. Kingdon
Tho. Hunter
Joseph Edwards

Richd. Drinkwater
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
D. Beck
John Tasker
John Sturch
Jno. Geere
Amos harrison
Wm. Gyles
John Bush
Samel. Hands

[Page 63 blank.]

---

[3] The words "in order" followed, but were crossed out.

[4] The word "and" followed, but was crossed out.

[5] The words "in ye Fourth" followed, but were crossed out, and a full stop placed after "above."

[Page 64.] [1743, May 25.] [Goswell Street.] *[1]The Names and Proceedings of the General Assembly of Messengers Elders and Bretheren[2] Representatives of the several Churches of Baptiz'd Believers Constituted according to Hebrews the 6th—1, 2 and owning the Doctrine of Universal Redemption met at Glasshouse Yard Goswell Street London May ye 25—26—1743

[Churches represented.]

Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	E.	
	John Neal	R.	
	Samel. Cherry		
Horsely Down	Samel. Fry	E.	
	George Turferroy	R.	
	Hezekiah Phillips		
	Robert Muggeridge		
Virginia Street[3]	Matthew Randal	E.	
	Benj. White	R.	
	Samel. Keeling		
	Richd. Pickering		
Park	Samel Hands	E.	
	John Gladman	R.	
	John Rust		
	Richd. Holderness		
Dover	Thomas Mercer	R.	
Sevenoaks	Samel Edwards	R.	a Letter Read
	Jos. Edwards		
Tunbridge Wells	Willm. Ashdown	E.	
	David Chapman	R.	
Chichester	James Spershott	R.	a Letter Read
Turners Hill	David Dod	R.	a Letter Read
Horsham	Thomas Carpenter	R.	a Letter read
	John Oldar		
[Page 65.] *Dichelling	John Caffin	R.	a Letter a Case
	Willm. Martin		
Webstone	John Geere	E.	
Croydon	Amos Harrison		
Upminster	Abram. Nelson	E.	
	Isaac Pain	R.	
	Willm. Pain		

---

[1] A new scribe begins his work with this year. He enters only the churches which actually send representatives.

[2] Interlined.

[3] The old name was retained, though the place was changed. This usage needs attention to prevent misconceptions. In the country it is especially important to note, the churches here called Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, Turners Hill, Webstone, Upminster having all changed their place, and the name after some interval.

Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E. Joseph Shimmons R.	
Ford	Daniel Rider R.	a Case
Western Association	A Letter	a Case

Agreed [Officers.]

Bro. Randall	Chairman
Bro. Morris Fry	Moderators

1. [Messengers.] Bro. Ashdown having Represented from the Kentish Association that they had fixed on our Brethren Matthias Copper John Gosling Robert Pial and Richd. Chilton to be Messengers and having proposed a Method to have their Answers soon we readily agree to what they have done and desire them to proceed with the utmost Expedition.

2. [Castle Headingham.] Ordered that there[4] be a Letter sent to the Several Congregations to exhort them to Assist the Church at Castle heddingham in Repairing their Meeting house and that Bror. Neal Do Draw up one for that purpose.

[Page 66.] 3. [Decay of religion.] *Having Recd. a Letter from the Western Association Recommending to us to observe Days of fasting and prayer on the Account of the Decay of serious Religion We Accordingly Recommend it to the several Churches that the observe such Days as often as the Conveniently Can; and we also Recommend it to the several Elders of Churches and heads of families that they in their respective Relations are Diligent in keeping up the Discharge of Religious Duties in their families.

4. [Messengers elect.] The Direct Necessity of having Messengers Being Considered it is Agreed that there be a Letter sent to each of the Brethren elected to that office to exhort them to take that office upon them and that Bro. Randal Do send the said Letters.

5. [Messengers in West.] Ordered that there Be a Letter sent to the Western Association to Let them know that there are several Persons elected to the office of Messengers to serve the Churches in Kent and Sussex and that this Assembly Recommend it to our Brethren that at their next Association they Choose from Amongst themselves such person or persons as they shall judge qualified to serve in that office and that Bro. Fry Do send the sd. Letter.

---

[4] The word "should" followed, but is crossed out.

6. Ordered that the thanks of this Assembly Be given to Bro. Harrison for his Agreeable Sermon at the opening of this Assembly And Accordingly Bro. Randal Did the Same.

7. Ordered Whereas Bro. Tasker was appointed to preach this Year and in Default of him Bro. Beck And they Being Both ill it is ordered that they are appointed for the ensueing Year

[Page 67.] 8. *Ordered that this Assembly be Adjourned to Wednesday and Thursday in Whitson week 1744 at Bro. Morris :s Meeting place in Glass house Yard Goswell street London.

9. that the Assembly Book Be Deposited in the hands of Bro. Randall

[Signatures.]

Jon. Older
Jos. Shimons

Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Samel. Hands
Amos Harrison
Rich. Instance
Jno. Geere
John Gladman
Abrah. Nelson
Richard Holderness
Dav. Chapman
Dav. Dodd
Samel. Benge
Joseph Edwards
Thos. Carpenter
John Caffin
Will Marten
Isaac Payne
Will Payne
Jno. Neale
James Spershott

[Page 68.] [1744, May 16.] [Goswell Street.] *The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Glasshouse Yard, Goswell Street, London, May 16, 1744.

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris Elder Jon. Neal Sam. Cherry
Horslydown	Sam. Fry E. Tho. Kinsnoth Jon. Brittain

Millyard	Mat. Randall	E.
	Keyly[1]	R.
	Jon. Maulden	
	Richd. Pickering	
Park	Jon. Gladman	
	John Rust	
West. Association[2].		
Cranbrook		
Maidstone		
Hythe & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		
Headcorn		
Athorn		
Isle Thannet	John Bush	E.
Wingham		
Canterbury		
Stelling		
Deal		
Seven Oaks	John Brown	R. a Letter
	Ja. Snow	
	Saml. Benge	
Tunbridge Wells	Wm. Ashdown	E.
	Davd. Chapman	
	Mat. Copper	R.
Chichester	Ja. Dearling	R.
	Ja. Spashut	
Turnershill	Griffell English	E.
Horsham	Jon. Tasker	E.
	Peter Caffyn	R.
Ditcherling	Thos. Mercer	R. a Letter
	Ste. Juden	
Walden		
Warbleton		
Hilsly	Wm. Marston	E.
Webstone	Jon. Geere	E.
	Robt. Barrett	E.

---

[1] Intended for Samuel Keeling, and "Saml" was written at first, then crossed out.

[2] The scribe reverts to the old practice of entering associations and churches which might be deemed constituents, even though not represented for years. No single scribe ever names explicitly the churches forming the Western or Northants or Leicester or Lincoln Association; from these pages and from other sources some can be identified, but as the minute-books of the associations are not extant, their local history is not recovered as yet.

Croydon	Amos Harrison E. Jon. Beauchamp Peter Webb R.
Upminster	Abrm. Nelson E. Mat. Wall R.
Coggshall	
Mazey Isle	
Braintree	
Halsted	
Burnham	
Castleheddingham	
Sudbury	
Colchester	
[Page 69.] *Norwich	
Yarmouth	
St Ives	
Smalborough	
Barkhamsted	
Aylsbury	
Stony Stratford	
High Wickham	
Amersham	Dan. Beck E. Hen Hobbs R.
Ford	
Winslow	Ja. Hall R.
Leighton	
Sundon	
Branford	
Maidenhead	
Isle Ely	
Marsh	
South Mims	
Smarden	
Crediton	
Northampton Assoc.	
Portsmouth	John Sturch E.
Leicester Assoc.	
Lincoln Assoc	
Stone in South Carolina	

[Officers.] Agreed

Bro. Maulden	Chairman
Bro. Randall Bush	Moderators
Bro. Tasker Beck Sturch	Scribes

Agreed

1. [3]Whereas a Letter was recd. from Sevenoaks containing a Case, but finding that Case has not yet been laid before any Association, tis agreed that till that has been done, this Assembly don't think fit to enter upon it, & that Bro. Randall write to them in that Case.

For M. Randall's Letter on this Business Look at the begining of this Book at the reverse End.[4]

2. [Messengers in Kent.] Bro. Ashdown having reported from ye Minutes of the Kentish Association held at Bessels Green, near Sevenoaks in Kent, that our Brethren Matthias Copper, Richard Chilton, & Robt. Pyall have accepted the Choice made of them to the Messengers Office at former Associations, & a former Assembly, this present *Assembly approves of the said Choice, & desires that the said Brethren be ordain'd as soon as our Bro. Miller can be obtain'd to do it, & in Default of Bro. Miller, that the next best Method be taken to get the said Brethren ordain'd to the said Office as soon as possible.[5]

[Page 70.]

3. [Messengers wanted.] That the Churches belonging to this Assembly be exhorted to look out among themselves proper Persons to propose to the next Assembly for the Messengers Office.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Tasker for his Sermon at the opening of this Assembly by Bro. Maulden which was done accordingly.

5. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday & Thursday in the Whitsun Week 1745, at Bro. Morris's Meeting House in Glasshouse Yard, Goswel Street, London, and that Bro. Beck do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, & in default Bro. Bush.

6 and lastly. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Signatures.]

Jno. Geere
Robt Barrett
Danel Beck
John Tasker
Amos Harrison
Wm. Ashdowne
Peter Webb

Mat Randall
John Sturch
Samel. Fry
John Bush
Griffell English
Willm Marston
John Beauchamp
Jno. Neale

Jno Maulden
Joseph Morris

---

[3] The word "That" began, but was crossed out.

[4] In this edition it is printed after the minutes of this year.

[5] It is never explicitly asserted that only Messengers could ordain Messengers, and the case of Ulyot is clear to the contrary; but there was a tendency towards Succession.

[Page 71.]

*Saml. Cherry
Thos. Mercer
Jas. Dearling
Jams. Snow
Samel Benge
Jon Browne
James Spershott
John Rust
Steph. Juden
Dav. Chapman
James Hall
John Gladman
Abra. Nelson
Matt. Wall
Peter Caffyn

[Page 350, at the other end of original book.]

*A Copy of the Letter to the Church at Bessels Green near Sevenoks in Kent, in pursuance of the Assembly's order May 16 1744.

To the Church of Xt Meeting on Bessels
Green.[6] Salutation.

Beloved in the Lord.

[A private opinion only.]

Your case not having been referred to any Sister Churches, nor to any Association, could not come regularly before the Assembly.[7]

I was, at the same time, desired to sattisfie you, that was the cause of its ommission, and not any want of tender respect or Care for your good estate; and also to give you my private thoughts on the affair mentioned in your Letter, which I desire to do with equal humility and Freedom. It is agreed on all hands, that Mix'd Marriages are not only inexpedient but dangerous, and some times lead to very bad consequences, and, as Such, are to be prevented as much as may be, by all seasonable advice, watchfulness and Caution. The only difficulty is; how the Church ought to deal with those Members who, after all, marry out of our Fellowship? And here, I must acknowledg there may be circumstances full of aggravation; as when, for

[Mixed marriages dangerous.]

---

[6] Bessels Green, otherwise Bradburn and Sevenoaks.

[7] A point of order never previously stated.

instance, a person, thro mere worldly interest, shall marry out of the Church, when there are in it, at the same time, those who, on all other accounts, are equally, if not more deserving. But to make it a general rule, to suspend from Comūnion all, without exception, is what I could never find defensible by the Word of God, or the primitive practice: for [Each case to be judged on its merits.]

1. [Scripture is not clear.] The two most pertinent places of Scripture usually brought to that end, seem to me, very insufficient. The Caution, " not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers &c."[8] apparently relates to the Corinthians joining with the Pagans at their religious feasts and in their Idolatrous rites. This is plain, by only comparing 2 Cor 6. 14, with 1 Epis 6. 10. Chap. 10. 16 ult. " Only in the Lord,"[8] 1 Cor. 7. 39. can mean no more than, in the profession of Xtianity, in opposition to the pagan unbelievers. Because

2. [Sects of Christians or Jews were not forbidden to intermarry.] Tho there were then sects and divisions among the Xtians yet there is nothing in Scripture to forbid their intermarrying. In the Church at Corinth they were so divided as to communicate in parties: Some denyed the resurrection and overthrew ye Faith. Many Xtians Practicd the Legal rites in conjunction with those of the Gospel, So as that Xt would profit them nothing Gal 5. 2, while others as strenuously asserted their Freedom from the Mosaic yoak of Bondage:—
*So likewise the Jews, under the law, they were divided into parties, as opposite to each other as those of the Xitians. Now tho, under both dispensations, believers are forbid to marry with unbelievers, yet I conceive 'twill be hard to find the least intimation in ye Scriptures, that either the Jews then, might not marry into their different Sorts; or that the Xitians suite, who continued in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, are injoined, not to marry with those other Xitians who had, in some material points, departed from the symplicity of the Gospel. These cases, I think are nearly the same with ours, at present, and seem to mitigate the hard thoughts we have been apt to entertain of those who have Transgres'd in the affair under consideration. And if, at last, there should appear no direct prohibition of Xitians on their first establishment, from marrying with pious [Page 349.]

---

[8] Inverted commas replace underlines in the original.

Jews who believed in the true God but had not as yet embrac'd the Gospel; then I think your controversie is entirely at an end. And then

3. [Exclusion is not expedient.]

It deserves to be consider'd, whether suspension from Com̃union for so marrying be, in point of prudence, a proper method to reclaim offenders, or promote the Baptist Interest? - There are instances, not a few, of persons who, on account of such Severity,[9] have never return'd to com̃union, or Sought after it; while meek instructions, friendship and familiarity, have often brought over, even, ye adverse party to baptism and com̃union with the Church. And there are many Candidates kept thereby from Joining with such Churches, till they see how providence shall dispose of them. For, in truth

4. [Partners within the communion are not always available.]

The severity contended for, especially as to some persons, is a very great hardship. Marriage has its rise and expedients from our nature and constitution. 'Tis Honourable in all: 'Tis better to marry than to be in pain. Now, since among us in this nation the women are not permitted to Look out for themselves; and when they have no offers from among the men of their own Com̃unity, what must they do? Must they, on pain of Excom̃unication, refuse every sober, virtuous, Christian-like person merely because he has not happened to be baptized by immersion or profession of faith? Is this Consistent with Xitian charity and forbearance? Yea, as to both sexes, 'tis scarcely possible, sometimes, not to transgress: The accidental Sight, or Conversation of Strangers; their agreeable mein, complexion, or deportment, often Create such mutual likeing, and affection, as shall render marriage almost necessary and unavoidable. Where this likeing and affection are not the motives to it, the true ends of marriage are seldom answr'd; the persons are rarely happy. As therefore, the case and circumstances, *the opportunities and inducements, are so very different; time and chants happening to all persons, so as to render them unable to Foredetermine themselves; I think the case of marriage cannot be brought under any one Strict invariable rule by the Xitian church; No, Her censures are seldom useful, never commendable, and often hurtful; while kindly

[Page 348.]

[Kindness rather than censure.]

---

[9] The word "who" followed, but is crossed out.

instruction, due Caution, friendly admonition, and prayer to God, seem to me the most likely means to prevent or regulate, all wrong proceedings in this most important part of life.

Thus, Dear Brethren, I have given you my present thoughts in this case, and Submit them to your serious consideration.

Remaining

Your Brother in ye Gospel

MAT. RANDALL

P.S. As the Last result of the General Assembly may have much greater influence on your determination than any thing I can say, I have therefore transcribed & sent it inclos'd.

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Glasshouse Yard, Goswel Street, London, June 5, 1745.

[Page 72.]
[1745, June 5.]
[Goswell Street.]

[Members present.]

Messengers	Richd. Chilton	
	Robt. Pyall	
	Mats. Copper	
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris E.	
	John Neal	R.
	Saml. Cherry	
Horslydown	Saml. Fry E.	
	Ja. Groombridge	R.
	Jon. Brittain	
Mill Yard	Mat. Randall E.	
	Saml. Keeling	R.
	Richd. Pickering	
Park	Jon. Treacher	R.
	John Gladman	
Dover	Robt. Pyall Supra	
Isle Thannet	Richd. Chilton Supra	
Seven Oaks	Saml. Benge A Letter	
Tunbridge Wells	Mats. Copper Supra	
	Wm. Ashdown E.	
Turnershill	David Dodd A Letter	
Horsham	Jon. Tasker E.	
Webstone	Robt. Barrett E. Letter	
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	
Upminster		
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E.	

Portsmouth	Jon Sturch E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck E.
Winslow	Ja. Hall E.

From Mr Miller A Letter

Agreed as follows

[Officers.]

Chairman	Robt. Pyall	Supra
Moderators	Bro. Chilton Bro. Copper	Supra
Scribes	Jon. Sturch Jon. Tasker Danl. Beck	

1. [Messengers ordained.] In Consequence of the second article of last Years Agreemt We are assured now that our Brethren Richd. Chilton, Robt. Pyall and Matthias Copper were ordained to the Messengers Office by Bro. Benj. Miller on June 22, 1744, at Downton Wilts.

[Page 73.] 2. [Two delegates only.] *A Question was put, Whether any Church may send more than Two Representatives to the Assembly, & it was carried in the Negative.

3. [Messenger elected.] In Consequence of the Third Article of our last Assembly, the Church at Webstone have recommended Bro. John Geere to the Messengers Office, which Recommendation was taken into Consideration & his Case & Character being generally known & approved by this Assembly, it is agreed by this Assembly that our said Bro. John Geere be made Choice of to the said Office of a Messenger; and that our present Messengers do endeavour to prevail with Bro. Geere to accept of the said Office, and, if he accept it, to ordain him as soon as conveniently they can.

4. [Benjamin Miller.] A cordial & fatherly Letter being received from Bro. Miller & read, it was order'd by this Assembly that Bro. Randall give the Thanks of this Assembly to Bro. Miller for the same.

5. That the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Beck for his Agreeable Sermon which was done accordingly by Bro. Pyall.

6 That this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week, 1746, at Bro. Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown Southwark, and that Bro. Bush do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly and in Default Bro. Pyall.

*Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Randall.

[Page 74.]
7.

[Signatures in one column original.]

Robt. Pyall
Rd. Chilton
Maths. Copper
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Richd. Instance
John Sturch

John Tasker
D. Beck
Amos Harrison
Rob. Barrett
Wm. Ashdowne
James Hall
John Gladman
Jno. Neale

Sam Keeling
Jon. Brittain
Richd. Pickering
Samel Benge
Dav. Dodd
Jas. Groombridge
John Treacher

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, Horsly Down, Fair Street, Southwark,[1] Wednesday May 21, 1746.

[Page 75.]
[1746, May 21.]
[Fair Street.]

[Members present.]

Messengers	Bro. Chilton Pyall Copper
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris E. Jon. Neal Danl. Prentice
Horslydown	Saml. Fry E. Jo Brittain Simon Tiptaft
Mill Yard	Mat. Randall E. Saml. Keeling Richd. Pickering } R.
Park	John Treacher Jon. Gladman
Dover	Robt. Pyall Supra
Isle Thanett	Bro. Chilton Supra Bro. Bush E.
Seven Oak	Saml. Benge Ste. Colgate } A Letter
Tunbridge Wells	Wm. Ashdown E. David Chapman R.
Upminster	Matt. Wall Wm. Pain } R.
Chichester	Ja. Dearling R.
Turnershill	David Dodd a Letter
Horsham	John Tasker E
Webstone	Jon. Geere Robt. Barrett } E. Wm. Jackson

---

[1] Another instance of Fry's growing importance.

Croydon	Amos Harrison E.
Sudbury	Jon. Brown R.
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck E.
Smarden	Jon. Austen E.

Conclusions and Agreements at this Assembly, viz.

[Officers.] Bro. Chilton Chairman

Bro. Morris, Randall Moderators

1. [Geere postpones acceptance.] Pursuant to the Agreement last Year concerning Bro. Geere's being chosen to the Messengers office, the present Messengers have treated with him, & find that he cannot accept it at present; the particular Reasons were not related to the Assembly, but the Assembly did acquiesce in the Messengers Report, that they were Reasons satisfactory to them, confiding in his generous Offer to assist [Page 76.] *Bro. Copper, upon Occasion, in the mean Time, & hoping & expecting that as soon as those Reasons or Obstacles shall be removed, Bro. Geere will consent to be ordain'd to the Messengers Office.

2. [Messenger elected.] A Motion being made of Bro. Randall's Election to the Messengers Office, the Assembly did agree, & have made Choice of him to the same Office, & have appointed Bro. Fry, Morris, Neal, Treacher, Brittain & Gladman to treat with & desire the Church at Mill Yard to consent to it, & also to desire Bro. Randall to accept of the same and that they do take the best Measures they can to remove all Objections that may arise upon that Affair, & to report the Conclusion to the next Assembly.[2]

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Bush for his agreeable Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, which was done accordingly by Bro. Chilton.

4. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week 1747 at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, Horslydown, Fair Street, and that Bro. Pyall do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly and in Default Bro. Copper.

5. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry.

---

[2] Business at the Assembly was almost at low-water. It probably reflects well the state of religion in the churches, and in the country at large.

[Signatures.]

John Brown
John Tasker
Wm. Payne
Step. Colgate
Samel Benge
John Brittain
John Gladman
Simon Tiptaft
Matt. Walls
Wm. Ashdowne
John Treacher
Jas. Dearling
Sam Keeling
John Neale
Dav. Chapman
Jno. Geere
Rob. Barrett
David Dodd

Richd. Chilton
Robt. Pyall
Maths. Copper
Mat. Randall
Samel Fry
Joseph Morris
John Bush
Danel. Beck
Amos Harrison

[Page 77.]
[1747, June 10.]
[Fair Street.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met Horslydown Fair Street, June 10, 1747.

[Members present.]

Messengers	Richard Chilton	
	Robt. Pyall	
	Mats. Copper	
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	E.
	John Neal	R.
	John Ward	
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	E.
	Robt. Muggeridge	
	William Brint	
Mill Yard	Mat Randall	E.
	Benj. White	R.
	Saml. Keeling	
Park	John Treacher	
	John Gladman	
Dover	Robt. Pyall	Supra
Seven Oak	Samel. Benge	Letter
	Stephen Colgate	
Cranbrook		
Maidstone		
Hythe & Foulkstone		
Dover		
Marden		
Rolvenden		

Headcorn		
Athorn		
Isle Thanet	Richd. Chilton	Supra
Wingham		
Canterbury		
Stelling		
Deal		
Walden		
Warbleton		
Hilsly		
Tunbridge Wells	David Chapman	Repr.
Chichester	Ja Spershot John Angel	
Turnershill	David Dodd	Letter
Horsham	John Tasker	E.
Webstone	John Geere Robt. Barrett	E.
Croydon	Amos Harrison	E.
Sudbury	John Brown	E.
Essex Ascos.	Richd. Instance	E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck	E.
Smarden		
Portsmouth	A Letter	
Ditcherling	Thos. Mercer Stephen Juden	R.
Alisbury	Thos. Piety	
Winslow	Ja. Hall	E.
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance	Sup.
Colchester		
Norwich		
Yarmouth		
St Ives		
Smalboroug		
Barkhamsted		
Stony Stratford		
High Wickham		
Ford		
Upminster	Abrm. Nelson Henry Collier	E. R.
Coggshall		
Braintree		
Halsted		
Burnham		
Castleheddingham		
Leighton		
Sundon		
Branford		

Maidenhead	Northampton Ass.
Isle Ely	Leicester Ass.
March	Lincoln Ass.
Southmims	Stone in South Carolina
Smarden	
Crediton	

Letter from Bro. Miller

Chairman	Bro. Copper	[Officers.]
Moderators	Bro. Chilton Bro. Benge	
Scribes	John Tasker Daniel Beck	

*Agreed [Page 78.]

As to the Case of Bro. Randall's being Chosen to the Messengers Office last Year, he does now accept of the same with the Approbation of the Church of which he is Elder: & agreed that he be ordain'd some Time this Summer: & further Application being made to Bro. Geere by this Assembly,, they have some Hopes that he will consent to be ordain'd to the same Office at the same Time. 1. [Randall accepts election.]

Whereas it was recommended by Bro. Miller to the Assembly that they proceed to encourage the raising more Gifts in the Churches, tis agreed by this Assembly that Circular Letters be wrote to the several Churches concerning that Matter, and agreed that such a Letter be drawn up by Bro. Morris & Bro. Neal, & sent to the Churches,[1] 2. [Letter as to funds.]

Agreed that the Thanks of the Assembly be given to Bro. Pyall for his agreeable sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, which was done accordingly by Bro. Copper. 3.

Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week 1748 at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, and that Bro. Copper do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, and in Default Bro. Chilton. 4.

That the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry. 5.

[Signatures.]

Maths. Copper	Thos. Piety
Rd. Chilton	John Treacher
Robt. Pyall	Dav. Chapman
Mat. Randall	John Brown

---

[1] The sentence originally concluded, "with the Proceedings of this Assembly," which words are crossed out.

Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
D. Beck
John Tasker
Jno. Geere
Robt. Barrett
Amos Harrison
Richd. Instance
Abrah. Nelson

James Spershott
Jno. Angell
Thos. Mercer
Steph. Juden
John Ward
Robt. Mugeridge
Jno. Neale
Jno. Gladman
William Brent
Stepn. Colgate
Dav. Dodd.
Samel. Benge.

[Page 79.]
[1748, June 1.]
[Fair Street.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, Horslydown, Southwark, June 1, 1748.

[Members present.]

Messengers	Wm. Johnson Robt. Pyall Matthias Copper Matthew Randall	
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	E.
	John Ward John Neal	R.
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	E.
	Robt. Powell Simon Garett	R.
Mill Yard	Mat. Randall	Supra
	Saml. Keeling Ste. Lowdell	R.
Park	John Treacher John Gladman	R.
Dover	Robt. Pyall	Supra.
Seven Oakes	Saml. Benge	R
Isle Thannett	John Bush	E.
Chichester	Ja. Dearling Ja. Sparshott	R.
Turnershill	David Dodd	R.
Horsham	John Tasker	E.
Webstone	Robt. Barrett	E.
Crowdon	Amos Harrison	E.
Sudbur	John Brown John Firmin	R.
Mazey Isle	Richard Instance	E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck	E.
Smarden		

Marden	Richd. Miriam R.
Russel[1] in Wilts & Hilsly	Wm. Bond E.
Leicester Assoc.	Wm. Johnson Supra
Portsmouth	John Sturch E. John Hayter R. A Letter
Aylsbury	Thos. Piety R.

A Letter from Bro. Miller

Chosen [Officers.]

Chairman	Bro. Johnson
Moderators	Bro. Pyall Bro. Copper
Scribes	John Sturch Danl. Beck John Tasker

1. [Randall and Geere ordained.] As to the First Article last Yaer in Relation to the Ordination of Bro. Randall and Bro. Geere to the Messengers Office Bro. Geere was prevail'd upon to accept it, and they were both ordain'd to the said Office at Downton in Wilts, by Bro. Miller and Bro. Copper, Octo: 13, 1747.

2. [Letters as to funds.] Whereas those Circular Letters which were agreed to be wrote by Bro. Morris and Bro. Neal to encourage the raising up more Gifts in the Churches occasioned by an affectionate Letter from Bro. Miller desiring that *such a [Page 80.] good work might be promoted, but was for some Reasons omitted; but Mr. Morris having drawn up such a Letter & laid before this Assembly for their Approbation; and as Mr. Millers present Letter has the like Tendency to promote the same good Work; this Assembly doth approve of the said Letter, and agree that Mr. Morris and Mr. Neal do send the said Circular Letter for Substance to the several Churches within one Month.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Copper for his agreeable Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, which was done accordingly by Bro. Johnson.

4. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week, 1749 at Bro. Fry's Meeting House and that Bro. Chilton[2] do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly and in Default Bro. Randall

---

[1] Rushall.

[2] The word "and" followed, and is crossed out.

5. Lastly agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry.

Wm. Johnson
Maths. Copper
Robt. Pyall
Mat. Randall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Amos Harrison
John Bush
John Sturch
Richd. Instance
James Spershott
John Neale
David Dodd

Thos. Piety
John Tasker
Danl. Beck
Jas. Dearling
John Treacher
Willm. Bond
John Brown
Robt. Barrett
John Ward
Samel. Benge
Richard Meriam
John Hayter
John Gladman
Simon Garrit
Robert Powell

[Page 81.]
[1749, May 17.]
[Fair Street.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown Southwark, Wednesday in the Whitsun Week, May 17, 1749

[Members present.]

Messengers	Robt. Pyall Mats. Copper Richd. Chilton Mat. Randall John Geere
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris E. John Neal John Barkwith
Horslydown	Sam. Fry E. Foreman Haddock Jos. Knightly R.
Millyard	Matt. Randall E. Sam. Keeling Ste. Lowdell R.
Park	John Treacher Jon. Gladman R.
Dover	Robt. Pyall ut Supra
Isle Thanet	Richd. Chilton Sup
Seven Oak	Sam. Benge E. Jos. Edwards Richd. Burgess R. Letter
Chichester	Ja. Dearling R.

Turnershill	David Dodd	A Letter
Tunbridge Wells	Mats. Copper	ut Supra
Horsham	John Tasker E.	
Ditcheling	Matthew Hunter John Caffyn	R. Letter & Case
Webston	John Geere Robt. Barret	Supra
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	
Sudbury	Jon. Brown R.	A Letter
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E.	
Amersham	Danl. Beck E.	
Marden		
Russel	Wm. Bond E.	A Letter
Leicester Association	A Letter	
Aylesbury	Thomas Piety	
Upminster		
Warbleton	Richd. Hugget	a Letter
Northampton Association	A Letter	
Lincoln Assoc.		

Chosen [Officers.]

John Geere	Chairman
Richd. Chilton Jos. Morris	Moderators
Dan. Beck John Tasker	Scribes

It was agreed as to the Case from Ditcherling concerning a short Catechism for Children which they think is wanting; It was agreed that it was very needfull that Children be Catechised & instructed, & to assist Masters of Families in that useful & necessary Work further[1] tis agreed that Bro. Morris, Randall & Fry do engage to draw up Such a Catechism & to print it as Speedily as they or either of them can well do. 1. [Catechism.]

*As to the Request from Sudbury concerning the Ordination of an Elder this Assembly does agree that some Messengers do go down as soon as they well can in order to ordain an Elder among them. [Page 82.] 2. [Sudbury.]

Recd. and read a Letter from Leicester Association which was kindly received by the Assembly. 3. [Letters.]

Recd. and read a Letter from Northampton Association which was also kindly recd. by the Assembly. 4.

---

[1] Originally written "&," which is crossed out, and this word interlined.

5. Recd. a private Letter by the Hands of Mr. Bond, upon which a Com̄ittee was appointed to examine the Contents & twas the Opinion of the Com̄itteee that the Assembly had nothing to do with it & therefore the said Letter was not read in the Assembly.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Bro. Randall for his agreeable Sermon, which was done by Bro. Geere.

7. Agreed that[2] this Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week, 1750, and that Bro. Instance do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, & in Default Bro. Geere, at Mr.[3] Frys Meetinghouse in Horslydown, Southwark.

8. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry.

[Signatures.]

Jno. Geere
John Tasker
Richard Hugget
Joseph Edwards
Richard Burglis juner
Thos. Piety
John Brown
Samel. Benge
Amos Harrison

Math. Copper
Jas. Dearling
Matt. Hunter
John Caffin
Richd. Instance

Mat. Randall
Robt. Pyall
Richd. Chilton
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Rob. Barrett
Danel Beck
John Treacher
John Neale
John Barkwith
Dav. Dodd
Joseph Knightly
Fordman Haddock
John Gladman

[Page 83.]
[1750, June 6.]
[Fair Street.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, Horslydown, Southwark, June 6, 1750.

[Members present.]

Messengers
Robt. Pyall
Mats. Copper
Mat. Randall
John Goode

Glasshouse Yard
Jos. Morris E.
John Neal R.
John Bartwith R.

---

[2] The contraction "Bro." was written next, and crossed out.

[3] The word "Morris's" was written next, and crossed out.

Horslydown	Saml. Fry E. Robt. Powell Simon Garrett } R.
Millyard	Mat. Randall E. Saml. Keeling Step. Lowdell } R.
Park	John Treacher John Gladman } R.
Dover	Robt. Pyall ut Supra
Isle Thanet	
Seven Oak	Step. Colgate Jos. Edwards } R. Letter
Chichester	Ja. Dearling R.
Turnershill	David Dodd Rep.
Tunbridge Wells	Mats. Copper Sup Henry Arnold Rep
Horsham	John Tasker E.
Ditchling	Thos. Hunter Danl. Austen } R. Letter
Webston	Rob. Barrett E.
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.
Sudbury	
Mazey Isle	Richd. Instance E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck E.
Marden	
Russell	
Leicester Assoc.	Jonn. Glover Rep. Letter
Alisbury	Thos. Piety Rep. Letter
Upminster	Abrm. Nelson R. Mat. Wall R.
Coggeshall	
Warpleton	
Northampton Assoc.	
Winslow	
Lincoln Assoc.	Jon. Goode Supra Letter
Ford	Danl. Rider R.
Norwich	Grantm. Killingworth R. Letter
Headcorn	Sam. Pyall R. Letter
Rolvenden	

Chosen

[Officers.]

John Goode	Chairman
Robt. Pyall Mats. Copper	Moderators
Danl. Beck John Tasker	Scribes

Agreed

1. [Catechism.] In Relation to the Agreement last Year concerning a Catechism for the Instruction of Children, that Work having been Neglected, 'tis the[1] Request and Agreement of this Assembly that Bro. Morris do undertake it and print one as soon as possibly he can, that we may have such a Catechism to disperse next Assembly, if not sooner.

[Page 84.] 2. [Ordination.] *In relation to the Request of the Letter from Buckingham Association held at Wendover, desiring some Messengers to come down to Chesham to ordain Thomas Sexton one of the Elders of Barkhamsted to the Messengers Office, it is agreed that Bro. Randall and Bro. Geere do go down, and that they do give timely Notice to the Church, when they can go to perform the same.

3. [Lincoln Association.] Recd. and read a Letter from the Lincolnshire Association, to which they desire an Answer, the Assembly agrees that Bro. Morris and Bro. Killingworth do perform the Same: which Letter was read and approv'd, and agreed that the Minutes of the Assembly be sent to them with the said Letter.

4. [Headcorn.] Recd. and read a Letter from Headcorn, and agreed that Bro. Neal and Bro. Dearling do draw up a Letter to answer the same, which being done, their Letter was read and approved.

5. [Leicester Association.] Recd. and read a Letter from Leicestershire Assotiation, which was left to Bro. Fry to answer

6. Agreed that Bro. Geere do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly next Year, and in default Bro. Goode; and that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week in the Year 1751, at Mr. Fry's Meetinghouse in Horslydown, Southwark.

7. Agreed, that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry.

John Goode
Mat. Randall
Maths. Copper
Robt. Pyall
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Richd. Instance
Danel. Beck

Amos Harrison
Jonathan Glover
John Barkwith
John Treacher
John Gladman
Thos. Piety
Grantm. Killingworth
Saml. Pyall

---

[1] The word "agreement" stood next, and is crossed out.

Robert Powell
John Tasker
Simon Garrit
Robt. Barrett
David Dodd

Jas. Dearling
J. Neale
Stepn. Colgate
Joseph Edwards

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown, May 29, 1751.

[Page 85.]
[1751, May 29.]
[Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

Messengers	Robt. Pyall	
	Mats. Copper	
	Mat. Randall	
	John Goode	
	John Geere	
	Thos. Saxton	
Glasshouseyard	Jos. Morris E.	
	Ja. Langley	R.
	John Barkwith	
Horslydown	Saml. Fry E.	
	Simon Tipstaff	R.
	Coleman Haddock	
Millyard	Mat. Randall Supra	
	Sam. Keeling	R.
	Ste. Lowdell	
Park	Jon. Treacher	R.
	John Gladman	
Dover	Robt. Pyall Supra	
Isle Thannett	John Bush E.	
Seven Oaks	Saml. Benge E.	
	Jos. Edwards	R.
	David Sale Junr	
Chichester	Ja. Dearling	R.
	Ja. Sparshott	
Turnershill	David Dodd R.	
Horsham	John Tasker E.	
	Abrm. Nettlefold	
	John Agate	
Ditcheling	James Brown R. Letter	
Webston	John Geere Supra	
	Robert Barrett E.	
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.	
	Jon. Austen E. of Smarden[1]	

---

[1] Opposite this name stood first, Staplehurst or Smarden, which was cancelled. Then, Smarden, which also was cancelled.

Merzey Isle	Richd. Instance E.
Chatham	Samuel Neal Farmer Heigwin } R. Letter
Amersham	Daniel Beck E.
Wickham	Francis Ayres R.
Upminster	Abraham Nelson R.
Leicestershire Association	Letter
Lincolnshire Assoc.	Jon. Goode Supra Willm. Penny Rep. Gilbert Boyce E of Coningsby[2]
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth R.
Tunbridge Wells	Matt. Copper as above Jas. Muggeridge R.
Headcorn	
Winslow	Jas. Hall E.
Ford	
Ailsbury	
Coggeshall	
Northampton Assoc.	
Russell[3]	Wm. Bond E. Jas Young Elder of Barkhampsted[4]

[Officers.] Chosen

Chairman	Bro. Sexton
Moderators	Bro. Goode Geere
Scribes	John Tasker Danl. Beck

Agreed as follows

1. [Sexton Messenger.] According to the Second Agreement last Year Bro. Randall and Bro. Geere went down to Chesham, and ordain'd Bro. Saxton to the Messengers Office.

2. [Thomas Harrison proposed Messenger.] A Report being made from the Association held at Bessels Green the 28th Instant by Bro. Copper and Bro. Pyall that Bro. Thomas Harrison was by them chosen to serve the Churches in the Office of a Messenger; which

---

[2] Opposite this name stood, Conningsby, which was cancelled.

[3] Rushall near Devizes.

[4] This entry was at first made, Barkhampstead . . Bro. Jas. Young E., which was cancelled. These alterations seem to imply that the churches as such were not in membership, or that the persons attended unofficially.

choice is highly approved of by this Assembly: Agreed that Bro. Fry and Bro. Killingworth do draw up a Letter, and that the said Letter be presented to the Church of Bessells Green by Bro. Copper and Bro. Benge in order to press them to yield him up, and Bro. Harrison to accept the said Office.

The Case of Bro. Amos Harrison's going going down to Bessels Green to preach to some People who are separated from the Church upon some Opinions, and to break Bread to 'em, in a separate manner, was consider'd, and 'twas judg'd by this Assembly, that Brother Harrison's Conduct therein has been irregular, from which he is desired to desist for the future, and that for the Time to come he do use his best Endeavours (and our Friends at Bessells Green also on their Parts, do the same) to unite that People. 3. [Rupture at Bessels Green.]

Agreed that the Assembly be adjourned to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week, 1752, at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, and that Bro. Geere do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly, and in Default Bro. Saxton.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Hands of Bro. Fry. 5.

[Page 86.] [Signatures.]

*Samuel Neale
Farmer Heigwin
James Hall
Richd. Instance
Wm. Penney
John Treacher
John Gladman
Jno. Austen
Danel. Beck
John Tasker
John Bush
*Willm. Bond [Page 87.]
James Mugridge
James Spershott
Jas. Dearling
John Agate
Foreman Haddock
Simon Tiptaft
Dav. Dodd
Grantm. Killingworth

Robt. Pyall
Thomas Sexton
Mat. Randall
Jno. Geere
Maths. Copper
John Goode
Joseph Morris
Samel. Fry
Amos Harrison

[Page 88.]
[1752, May 20.]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Frys Meeting house in Horslydown, Southwark, May 20th, 1752.

[Members present.]

Wm. Johnson		Messengers
Mat. Randall		
Mats. Copper		
Robt. Pyall		
John Geere		
Jos. Morris	E.	Glasshouse Yard
Ja. Langley	R.	
John Neal		
Saml. Fry	E.	Horslydown
Jos. Knightly	R.	
John Rust		
Mat. Randall	Supra	Millyard
Saml. Keeling		
Ste. Lowdell		
John Treacher		Park
John Gladman		
Richd. Instance	E.	Mazey Isle
Bro. Johnson		Leicester Association
Gilbert Boice		Lincoln Assoc.
Saml. Neal	E.	Chatham
John Bush	E.	Isle Thannet
Sam. Benge	E.	Seven Oaks
Ste. Colgate	a Letter	
David Sale		
Matthias Copper	Supra	Tunbridge Wells
Ja. Muggeridge	Rep.	
Ja. Dearling	R.	Chichester
Ja. Austen		
John Tasker	E.	Horsham
Cha. Habgood	R.	
Daniel Lowry	R. a Letter	Ditcheling
Peter Brown		
Sam. Chappel	R.	Hilsly
John Geere	Supra	Webston
Robt. Barrett	E.	
Amos Harrison	E.	Croydon
Peter Webb	R. a Letter	
Grantham Killingworth	Rep.	Norwich
Danl. Beck	E.	Amersham
Caleb Cock[1]		Barkhamsted
Henry Biggs	R.	

---

[1] At first marked E., but this was cancelled.

Chosen [Officers.]

Bro. Johnson	Chairman
Moderators	Mat. Randall Mats. Copper
Scribes	Ja. Pocock John Tasker

Agreed

1. [Credentials.] That this Assembly think it proper for the sake of good order to recommend to[2] all the Churches, that they send a Letter with the Person or Persons whom they send as Representatives for the future, except the Pastor of the Congregation be present, or the Person or Persons be well known to some of the Assembly.

2. [Croydon versus Amos Harrison.] Agreed that Bro. Copper and Bro. Geere do go to the Church of Croydon, and endeavour to bring about a reconciliation between Bro. Harrison and that Church, and if not able to bring[3] about a friendly and Christian accommodation then to leave it to the Church

3. [Hilsley.] Agreed that the Assembly receiving a letter from the Church at Hilsley do refer it to Bro. Fry to draw up a letter and to send it to them by Bro. Chapel their representative.

[Page 89.] 4. [Thomas Harrison Messenger.] *Pursuant to an Agreement made the last Assembly our Bro. Thos. Harrison was ordained a Messenger at Tunbridge wells by Bro. Matthias Copper and Bro. Robert Pyall

5. The[2] Assembly Sermon was preached by Bro. Wm. Johnson [2]this year[2]

6. Agreed that the Assembly be adjourned to Wednesday in the Whitsun week 1753, at Bro. Frys Meeting house and that Bro. Geere do preach a Sermon at the opening the Assembly and in default Bro. Sexton

7. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the hands of Brother Fry.

[Signatures.]

Wm. Johnson
Maths. Copper
Mat. Randall
Robt. Pyall
Jno. Geere
Joseph Morris

James Langley
John Neale
Henry Biggs
Jas. Dearling
James Austen
Peter Webb

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] The word, It, followed, and was cancelled.

Richd. Instance
D. Beck
John Tasker
Samel. Fry
Amos Harrison
Rob. Barrett
John Treacher
Gilbert Boyce
John Bush Jr.
Caleb Cock
Samuel Chapel
Samel. Neale
Samel. Benge
James Mugridge
Stepn. Colgate
John Gladman
Jos. Knightly
John Rust
Stephn. Lowdell
David Sale Junr.
Grantm. Killingworth
James Pocock

[Page 90.] [1753, June [Horsleydown.] *The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met at Bro. Fry's Meetinghouse the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week June the 13th, 1753.

[Members present.]

	Matt. Randall	Messengers	
	Robert Pyall		
	John Geere		
	Thomas Harrison		
	Thos. Sexton		
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris	E.	
	Ja. Langley	R.	
	John Neal		
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	E.	
	Major Bovey	R.	
	Thos. York		
Millyard	Matt. Randall	E.	
	Saml. Keeling[1]	R.	
	Ste. Lowdell		
Park	John Treacher	R.	
	John Gladman		
Lincoln Assoc	John Halford	E.	
Chatham	Saml. Neal	E.	
Seven Oak	Jos. Edwards	R.	Letter
	Benj. Fletcher		
Tunbridge Wells	Tho. Benge	R.	Letter
	Thos. Moorhouse		
Horsham	John Tasker	R.	
	John Wells		
Ditcheling	Danl. Austen		Letter
	Ja. Brown		
Hilsly	Jas. Hook	R.	

---

[1] This name originally stood first, was cancelled, and placed here. Keeling had represented White's Alley from 1700 till it withdrew from the Assembly after 1736. He represented this church from 1741 till now, his last appearance. For six years he had been associated with Stephen Lowdell, who handed on the tradition till 1809.

Webston	John Geere Supra Robt. Barret E.
Croydon	Amos Harrison E.
Amersham	Danl. Beck E.
Barkhamsted	Thos. Sexton Supra Caleb Cock R.
Upminster	Abrm. Nelson E.
Alisbury	Thos. Piety R.
Dover[2]	Robt. Pyall Supra
Warbleton	Jon. Gossling E.
Cranbrook	a Letter
St. Ives's	Henry Biggs R.
Headcorn & Biddenden	a Letter
Hawsbury	a Letter
Leicester Assoc	a Letter

Agreed [Officers.]

Bro. Thos. Harrison	Chairman
Bro. Sexton & Pyall	Moderators
John Tasker Danl. Beck	Scribes

1. [Messengers to be ordained in Lincoln.] Having recd. a Messuage from the Lincoln Association by Bro. Halford that Messengers might come down to them to ordain a Messenger and other Officers; it is agreed that the same be left to the *the Messengers and Bro. Halford [Page 91.] to fix upon a Time and Place to perform the same.

2. [Churches not represented to be asked ten months hence.] A Motion being made that whereas[3] many Churches having been deficient in sending Representatives to this Assembly; tis agreed that Bro. Fry be appointed to look back into the Assembly Book, to observe what Churches have[4] been deficient in this matter, and that he write to them to desire them orderly to send up Representatives for the future and that the same be done in Ten Months Time.

3. [Family Religion to be promoted.] A Motion being made that considering the great decay of Religion, 'tis agreed by this Assembly that the several Ministers and Representatives relating thereto do exert themselves in their several Places and Stations to impress a due Sense of Religion on the minds of the respective Churches and People to which they belong; and particularly that

---

[2] Above this entry stood, Headcorn . . . a Letter, cancelled.

[3] Interlined.

[4] Written twice, second word cancelled.

Masters of Families do look after & concern themselves in the Instruction and Education of their Children and Dependants, and that they, more particularly be observant on the Lords Day Evenings to keep their Family together to the end they may perform their Duties in that Case.

4. Agreed that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week which shall be in the Year of our Lord 1754 And that Brother Sexton do preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly; and in Default Brother Thomas Harrison, and that the said Assembly be holden at Bro. Fry's Meeting House, in Horslydown Fair Street, Southwark.

5. That the Assembly Book be deposited in the hands of Bro. Fry.

[Signatures.]

Thos. Harrison
Robt. Pyall
Thomas Sexton
Jno. Geere
Mat. Randall
} Messengers

Samel. Fry
Joseph Morris
Jno. Halford
Amos Harrison
Rob. Barrett
Samel. Neale
John Tasker
D. Beck
John Wells

Henry Biggs
Joseph Edwards
Benjamin Fletcher
Stephn. Lowdell
John Neale
John Treacher
John Gladman
James Langley
Thos. Piety
Thos. Moorhouse
Danl. Austen
Jas. Browne

[Page 92.]
[1754, June 5.]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Names and Proceedings of the Assembly met by adjournmt. on June 5, 1754

[Members present.]

Messengers	Matthew Randall Matthias Copper Jno. Geere Thos. Harrison Thos Sexton Gilbert Boice[1]
Glasshouse Yard	Jos. Morris Eld Jno. Neal } Rep. Jno. Barkwith } Rep.

---

[1] This name was added. He became a leader till 1800.

Horsley Down	Samel. Fry Eld Sam. Fry Junr Seth Prolet R.
Millyard	Matt Randall Mess. Samel. Keeling Stephen Lowdell R.
Park	Jno. Treacher Jno. Gladman R.
Cranbrook	Danel. Dooble E.
Sevenoakes	Thos. Harrison Mess. Samel. Beng Eld Jos. Edwards David Sale Junr. R.
Marden	Richd. Meriam R.
Canterbury	Richd. Higgitt R. Letter
Tunbridge Well	Matthias Copper Mess. Thos. Morehouse Wm. Ashdown
Chichester	Jas. Darling Jno. Angell R.
Horsham	Richd. Caffin Henry Wood R. Letter
Ditcherling	Jno. Brown Walter Eye R. Letter
Turnershill	A Case
Webstone	Jno. Geere Mess.
Croydon	Robt. Barrett Eld. Amos Harrison Eld. Peter Webb R. Letter
Upminster	
Ailesbury	Thos. Piety Mess.
Amersham	Danel. Beck Eld.
Barkhampsted	Thos. Sexton Mess. Caleb Cock R.
Leicester Association	Jona. Glover Eben. Essex R.
Lincoln Association	Gilbert Voice R. Letter
Warbleton	Natel. Brown R. Jno. Gosling Eld.
Hilsley	Thos. Benj. R. Letter
Isle of Thanett	Jno. Bush junr.
Headcorn	Letter
Portsmouth	David Brent R. Letter
Smarden	Jno. Austen E.

After seeking the Lord by prayer and Chose Bro. Copper to be Chairman and at the same time chose Bro. Randall & Voice Moderators- [Officers.]

Scribes Bro. Neal
Bro. Beck

proceedeth as followeth

[Page 93.] *The Names and Proceedings of ye Assembly met by Adjurnment on June 5: 1754

First. [Boyce Messenger.] Whereas it was desired by ye Lincolnshire Association that some Messenger might be Sent down to ordain our Bro. Gilbert Boyce into ye Messenger office which tho. not Perform:d by Sending Down those from those Parts has been accomplished by Bro. Johnson who's Place of residence was more Convenient[2]

2ly. [Sturch.] A Letter being recd. from Bro. Sturch of Portsmouth relating to ye spread of Pernicious Principles in Religion & his apprehensions of its fatal consequences it was agreed that Bro. Morris be Desired to write an Answer to it & Send to Portsmouth as soon as conveniently he can

3ly. [Johnson publish ?] A Letter was recd. from Bro. Johnson relating to ye Publication of Some Sermons of his it is agreed to request Bro. Randall to write an Answer to him with ye Sentiments of this Assembley on that Subject

4ly. [Lincoln.] A Letter was recd. from Lincolnshire Association to which Bro. John Neale was Desired to send ye Sentiments of the Assembley

5ly. [Ditchling.] A Letter was recd. from Ditcherling Relating to Church Dissipline and it was agreed, that Bro. Fry be Desired to write an answer to inform them of ye Sentiments of this Assembly

[Page 94.] 6ly. *Order'd that this Assembly be adjour'd to the Wednesday in Whitesun Week in 1755. & that Bro. Tho. Harrison be Desired to Preach a Sermon at ye Opening of ye Assembley at that time and on Default Bro. Gilbert Boyce

7th. Order'd that this Book be kept in ye Hands of Bro. Fry.

[Signatures.]

Maths. Copper	John Neale
Mat. Randall	John Angell
Jno. Geere	Jas. Dearling
Thos. Harrison	John Barkwith
Gilbert Boyce	John Gladman
Thomas Sexton	Caleb Cock
Danl. Dobel	Peter Webb
Amos Harrison	Richard Meriam

---

[2] William Johnson had recently removed from the Isle of Ely to Coventry.

Joseph Morris
Thos. Piety
D. Beck
Saml. Benge
Richd. Hugget
Saml. Fry
Saml. Fry Junr.
Seth Vilatt
Joseph Edwards
David Brent
David Sale Junr.
John Bush Junr.
Thos. Moorhouse

*The Proceedings of the generall Assembly met by adjournmt. at Bro. Frys Meeting May 21, 1755.

[Page 95.]
[1755, May 21.]
[Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

	Matthew Randall	Messengers
	John Geare	
	Thomas Harrison	
	Thomas Sexton	
	Gilbert Boyce	
Glasshouse Yard	John Neal	Representatives
	John Barkworth	
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	Elder
	John Brittain	Representatives
	Wm. Pittock	
Mill Yard	Mattw. Randall	Messr.
	Stephen Lowdell	Representatives
	Wm. Hill	
Park	John Treacher	Representatives
	John Gladman	
Western Association	dissol'd[1]	
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobell	Elder
Sevenoaks	Thomas Harrison	Messr.
	Saml. Benge	Elder
	Joseph Edwards	Representatives
	Benjamin Fletcher	
Maidstone	Now in Church that was united with this Assembly	
Hyth & Folkstone		
Dover	Robt. Pyall	Elder
Marden		
*Canterbury	Richd. Huggett	Representatives
	Thos. Giles	
Tunbridge Wells	James Muggett	Representatives
	Thos. Morehouse	
Chichester	James Dearling	Representative
Horsham	Abraham Nettlefold	Representatives
	Richd. Dendey	

[Page 96.]

---

[1] Not permanently.

	Ditcherly	Danl. Austin David Brown } Reps.
	Turners Hill	
	Webstone	John Geare Messr.
		Robt. Barrett Elder
	Craydon	Amos Harrison
	Upminster	
	Coggshall	
	Ford	
	Aylesbury	
	Amersham	Danl. Beck Elder
	Winslow	James Hall Elder
	Stony Stratford	
	Layton	
	Wickham	
	Berkhamsted	Thos. Sexton Messr.
		Caleb Cocks Represent.
[Page 97.]	*Lincoln Association	Gilbert Boyce Messenger Case
	Leicester Do.	A Letter
	Warbleton	
	Burnham	
	Colchester	dissolv'd[2]
	Northamptonshire Association	
	Hillsley	Thos. Benge Representative
	Isle of Marsh[3]	
	Braintree	
	Hallstead	
	Castle Ellingham[4]	
	Norwich	
	St. Ives	Henry Biggs Repr.
	Smallborough	
	Sundon	
	Rolvenden	
	Headcorn	Saml. Pyall Elder
	Athan	
	Isle of Thanet	
	Deal	
	Brentford	
	Yarmouth	A Letter
	Portsmouth	
	Smarden	
[Page 98.]	*Chatham	Saml. Neal Elder

---

[2] The members joined the Particular Baptist Church by 1773.

[3] Mersea.

[4] Castle Hedingham.

The Proceedings of the Assembly met by Adjournment at Bro. Frys Meeting House 21st May 1755.

Brother Gilbt. Boyce Chosen Chairman who began wth. Solemn Prayer [Officers.]

John Geare
Thos. Sexton } Moderators

A Letter from Bro. Johnson at Coventry

Danl. Beck
James Curtis } Scribes

On reading Bror Johnson's Letter & the Minutes of last Assembly relating to the Publishing a Sermon of his (which had not as yet been Examined by proper Persons) Agreed that Brothers Randall Morris & Fry with such others as they shall think Proper to Join with them) do Carefully Examine his Manuscript & send him their Opinion and Resolution thereupon before next Assembly 1st. [Johnson's MS. to be scrutinized]

On hearing a Case from Lincoln Association relating to the Marriage Act & for trying to Obtain such Liberty of Marrying in their own Churches as is allowed to the Quakers Agreed That it be referr'd to Brors. Matthw. Randall & Jno. Neal to Enquire & Advise them about this Matter as soon as they can[5] 2d. [New Marriage Law.]

On reading a Letter from Leicester Association & another from Yarmouth Complaining of the Want of a Proper Assistant in the Ministry of the Gospel at each place Agreed That our Brethren in the Country do look out for Proper Persons to Supply these Churches & if any are found to send Immediate Advice thereof to Brothers Randall & Fry.[6] 3d. [Leicester and Yarmouth want ministers.]

---

[5] Until 1754 the state of the law was uncertain. At Common Law the mere consent of the parties, expressed in writing or by speech or perhaps even by act, was good for many purposes. That common law still holds in some states of America, as foreigners occasionally discover to their unbounded amazement. And the similarity of the Scots law popularized Gretna Green. But Lord Hardwicke's Act obliged a certain notice, and the celebration in the buildings of the Established Church. Exceptions were made for Jews and for Quakers, and the Lincolnshire Association naturally thought the exception might be extended. It was not conceded for many years.

[6] In this year some ardent evangelists in Leicestershire became convinced of Baptist principles. They needed to be baptized, the Assembly churches needed ministers; but the lock and the key never fitted. Leicester was indeed supplied next year, and Wood gives the names J. Johnson and Samuel Durance. The latter however soon went to Boston, and this appeal was renewed in 1758 and 1761. Except for an occasional visit from Richard Green,

The Letters to the last[7] Assembly from Lincoln Association & the Church at Ditcherling have been Answer'd according to the Resolutions of that Assembly.

4th. [Revision of Stanley's book,] The Book entitul'd (The Gospel's Honour & the Churches Ornament) Wrote by our Worthy Deceased Bror Stanley[8] being Judged a Usefull Work & much Wanted at this time the Assembly Request Bror Randall to Revise the same Work [Page 99.] in Order to its being *republished & he has promised to do what he can therein.

5th, [Widow's Fund.] [9]Brors. Randall & Fry are Desir'd to send a Proper Account of the Nature & Design of the Widows Fund to the Churches & that a Subscription thereto is Earnestly recommended to the Members of the respective Churches according to their Ability.

6. Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in Whitson Week in the Year 1756 then to be held at Bror Fry's Meeting House and that Bror Gilbt. Boyce be Desir'd to preach a Sermon at the opening that Assembly & on his Default Bror Danl. Dobell

Lastly. It is Order'd that this Book be kept in the Hands of Bror Fry.

[Signatures.]

Gilbert Boyce
Jno. Geere
Mat. Randall
Robt. Pyall
Thomas Sexton
Thos. Harrison
Saml. Fry
Danel. Beck
John Treacher
John Gladman
Robt. Barrett
Danl. Dobel
Samel. Benge
Saml. Neale

Saml. Pyall
Thos. Moorhouse
James Mugridge
Richard Hugget
Thos. Giles
John Brittain
Caleb Cock
Henry Biggs
James Browne
Richd. Dendy Junr.
Danl. Austen
Abrm. Nettellfould
Benj. Fletcher
Joseph Edwards

Elder of Earl Shilton, Leicester had no minister till 1781. Meanwhile the new preachers were conducting meetings at Barton, Hinckley, Kegworth and Loughborough, and six of them had been to Leicester to register as dissenting preachers.

[7] The word Association follows, and is cancelled.

[8] Francis Stanley of Ravensthorpe died 1696.

[9] This minute was nearly omitted: the first words were, Order'd that this Ass, obviously a beginning of number 6; they are cancelled.

Jas Dearling
John Neale
John Barkwith
Stephn. Lowdell

James Hall

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly met by Adjournmt. at Brother Fry's Meeting Place 9th June 1756. [Page 100.] [1756, June 9.] [Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

	Matthew Randall	Messengers
	John Geare	
	Robert Pyall	
	Thomas Harrison	
	Thomas Sexton	
	Gilbert Boyce	
Glasshouse Yard	John Neale	Reprs.
	John Barkwith	
Horslydown	Saml. Fry	Elder
	Robt. Mogeridge	Reprs.
	Joseph Hackney	
Park	John Gladman	Reprs.
	John Rust	
Cranbrook	Daniel Dobell	Elder
Seven Oaks	Thos. Harrison	Messr.
	Joseph Edwards	Reprs.
	Willm Goodhew	
Dover	Robt. Pyall	Messr.
Tonbridge Wells	Thos. Moorhouse	Repr.
Chichester	James Dearling	Repr.
Horsham	John Tasker	Elder
	Danl. Colgate	Reprs.
	Willm. Turner	
Ditcherley	Thos. Hunter	Reprs.
	John Brown	
Turners Hill	Willm Bourne	Elder
Mill Yard	Mattw. Randall	Messr.
	Hill	Reprs.
	Samuel Keeling	
Webstone	John Geere	Messr.
	Robt. Barritt	Elder
Croydon	Amos Harrison	Elder
Amersham	Danl. Beck	Elder
Berkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messr.
	James Young	Elder
Lincolnshire Association	Gilbert Boyce	Messr.
Leicester Association	John Yeomans	Repr.[1]

---

[1] Of Kettering. Thomas Britten had heard him preach a trial sermon at Sundon in 1736.

Warbleton	John Gosling Elder Nathanl. Brown Repr.
Norwich	Grantm. Killingworth Repr.
Headcorn	James Cooper Repr.
Chatham	Saml. Neale Elder Geo. Baldwin Repr.

Bror Robert Pyall began with Solemn Prayer

[Officers.]

Bror. John Geare Chosen Chairman

Brothers Robt. Pyall & Thomas Harrison Chosen Mederators

Danl. Beck & James Curtis, Scribes

The Minutes of the last Assembly were Read

[Yarmouth and Leicester supplied.]

Pursuant to the Application of the Churches at Yarmouth & Leicester to the last Assembly for a Minister at each Place proper Measures have been taken for their being Supply'd which is accordingly fulfilld

[Page 101.]

[Stanley's book revised.]

*Bror Stanleys Book Intituled The Gospels Honour & Churches Ornament is (according to the request of the last Assembly) Revised by Bror Saml. Neale of Chatham & the Republication thereof nearly Compleated & it is hoped that our Friends will Encourage the spreading thereof as far as possible

[Turnershill.]

On reading the Objections of our Brethren at Turnershill against Singing Psalms & Reading Sermons & also their Two Questions address'd to this Assembly about the Proper Business of this Assembly & the Duty & Priviledge of Messengers Bror John Neale is requested to draw up an Answer thereto with which he Comply'd and the answer drawn up by him & approved by us is as follows—

Beloved Brethren

["We hold to decision of 1733-5 as to singing.]

Upon Considering the Difficultys arising among you with respect to the Articles of Singing &c we having turn'd to the years 1733 & 1735 observe that it appears in the Book of the Genl. Assembly for those years that answers at large were wrote to our Friends of the Northamptonshire Association concerning Questions of that Nature to wch we refer you as being the Sentiments of the present Assembly & least you shod. have mislaid the Proceedings of those years we have for your Satisfaction order'd one of our Present Scribes to Transcribe them for you.

And as to a Direct Answer to your Two Questions please to observe as follows vizt.

To the First we reply that we always Esteem'd it the Business of the Assembly to receive all Matters & Cases whether of Differences or otherwise from any of the Churches Joining wth. us & from time to time have in all such Cases proceeded accordingly by which means many Happy Consequences have ensued many Scruples removed & Differences made up Agreeable to the Word of God as by the Minutes of this Assembly for some later Years may more fully appear

[" We hear any case referred to us,]

And with respect to your 2d. Question 'Tis our Opinion that the Messengers office extends itself equally over all the Baptized Churches who request their assistance

[" and the Messengers will help where invited."]

A Letter from Charles Town South Carolina requesting a Learned and pious Minister might be sent to them for whose Support abt. £70 a Year is appropriated was read by Bror. Killingworth *Agreed that each of our Friends do make proper Inquiry thereabout & send advice of their Success to Bror. Killingworth or such person as he shall appoint

[South Carolina.]

[Page 102.]

Order'd that this Assembly be Adjourn'd to the Wednesday in Whitson Week in the Year 1757 then to be held at Bror. Fry's Meeting House and that Bror. Danl. Dobell is[2] to Preach a Sermon at the opening that Assembly & on his Default Bror. James Pocock the Service to begin at 10 oClock in the Forenoon

Lastly it is Order'd that this Book be Kept in the Hands of Brother Fry

[Signatures.[3]]

Jno. Geere
Robt Pyall
Gilbert Boyce
Thos. Harrison
Thomas Sexton
Saml. Fry
John Barkwith
Jas. Dearling
Grantm. Killingworth
Danel Beck
James Cooper
John Tasker
Amos Harrison
Saml Neale
Willm Bourn
Jas. Young
John Gladman
John Rust
Geo. Baldock
John Neale
Willm. Goodhugh
Daniel Colgate
Wm. Turner

---

[2] This word is interlined, replacing the cancelled phrase, be desired.

[3] In one column in the original.

[Page 103.]
[1757, June 1.]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of The General Assembly met by adjournment at Bror Frys Meeting Place the first day of June 1757

[Members present.]

Messengers	John Geere	not here
	Robert Pyall	
	Thos Harrison	not here
	Thos Sexton	
	Gilbert Boyce	
Glass House Yard	John Barkwith	
	John Neale	Representatives
Horsley Down	Saml. Fry	Elder
	Saml Fry Junr.	R.
	Henry Morris	
Millyard	John Britain	Elder
	Wm. Hill	R.
	Elias Cherry	
Park	John Gladman	R.
	J. Rust	
Seven Oaks	Jos. Edwards	Rep.
Dover	Robt. Pyall	Messr.
Tunbridge Wells	James Muggeridge	R.
Chichester	James Dearling	R.
Horseham	John Tasker	Elder
	James Knight	R.
Ditcherling	Danl. Austin[1]	
Amersham		
Berkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messr.
	Calib Cock	R.
Leicestershire Association	A Letter	
Lincolnshire Association	Gilbert Boyce	Messenger
Warbleton	John Gossling	Elder
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	R.
Headcorn	James Cooper	Do.
Canterbury	Richd. Huggett	
Webston	Robt. Barret	Elder
St. Ives	Hen. Biggs	
Winslow	James Hall	Eldr.
Brentford	Jas Pocock	Eldr.
	Francis Swinton	R.
	John Barret	
Portsmouth	John Sturch	Elder
Turners Hill	Wm. Bourne	Eldr.

---

[1] This is written over an erasure.

*[2]It was agreed by the Assembly to take into further Consideration the Request of the Baptist Church at South Carolina that the Assembly here[3]would endeavour to assist them with a Learned & Pious Minister and a Letter Lately Recd. by Mr. Grantham Killingworth was read wherin they offer as an Encouragement 100£ a year Sterling & have also Remitted a Bill for 50£ Value to the Said Mr. Grantham Killingworth to assist and enable a Qualified person to go over and assist them in that Character and it was Recommended to every Individual of the Assembly[4] to find out a Proper Person & Acqnt the sd. Mr. Killingworth Directed to him at Norwich or[5] to be Left at Mr. Hezekiah Philips Shad Thames Southwick. [Page 104.] [South Carolina]

It is also agreed by this Assembly, that a Representation be made to the Several Churches Joining therwith, of the Apparent Utility of sending from time [3]to time the state of any particular Member or Members belonging to them to whom it might be of advantage to remove to some distant place for Settlement, as als Whether there be any Vacancy in the said place for any person to be Admitted with a probability of Success to settle in any Particular Business, Supposing one from a Different part should be found in Want; as also farther that if any of the Members being Masters are in want of apprentices, or Parents in want of Masters for their Children; that by these happy means Provisions may be made for the Establishment of Mutual Harmony. and for not only strengthining the Interest of the Baptist Cause in general but also of each[6] Church in Particular and Tend to the Good of Society in general [News as to business openings to be sent up.]

*It is also agreed that all Letters on these Occasions[7] should be Sent to the Revd Mr. Samuel Fry Post Paid [Page 105.]

A Motion being made to Call Brother Saml. Fry To the Messenger Office The Question being Put it was unanimously Approv'd [Fry Messenger ?]

And a Motion being made that Bror Pyal Bror Sexton and Bror Boyce treat with him on that account and also that Bro Britain and Bror Neal be desired to treat with the

---

[2] Originally written, It was Furthermore agreed by the Society.

[3] Interlined.

[4] Originally, Society.

[5] The words, to him, followed and were cancelled.

[6] The word, other, followed and was cancelled.

[7] The word, are, followed and was cancelled.

Church at Horseleydown in order to obtain their Consent to the same. It was unanimously Approv'd

Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in Whitsun Week in the Year 1758 then to be held at Brother Frys Meeting House and that Bror Daniel Dobell is to preach a Sermon at the Opening That Assembly and on his Default Bror James Pocock the Service to begin at 10 o Clock in the Forenoon.

Lastly it is Order'd that this Book be kept in the Hands of Mr. Fry.

[Signatures.]

Jas Dearling
Grantm. Killingworth
Jas. Pocock
John Gladman
Caleb Cock
Henry Biggs
Francis Swinden
Saml. Fry Junr.
Henry Morris
Wm. Hill
Elias Cherry

John Sturch
Robt. Pyall
Thomas Sexton
Gilbert Boyce
Saml. Fry
John Brittain
John Tasker
Amos Harrison
James Hall
William Bourn
John Barkwith
James Mugridge
Robt. Barrett

[Page 106.]

*John Rust
James Cowper
Danl. Austen
John Neale
James Knight

[Page 107.] [1758, May 17.] [Horsleydown.] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly at Brother Fry's Meeing House the 17th day of May 1758.

Bror Thos Harrison Began the Business of This Meeting with Solemn Prayer

[Officers.]

Bror Gilbert Boyce Chairman
Brothers Thos Harrison, Thos Sexton Moderators
John Angell & Jas. Curtis Scribes

The Minutes of the last Assembly were read

Messengers	Samuel Fry Gilbert Boyce Thomas Harrison Thomas Sexton		[Members present.]
Glass House Yard	Benj. Treacher	Elder	
	Wm. Bill John I ony	Reprentatives	
Horsley Down	Samuel Fry	Messenger	
	Josuh Knightly Simon Tipstaff		
Mill Yard	John Britain	Elder	
	John Ayrs John Chapman	Representatives	
*Park	Allex Dobson	Elder	[Page 108.]
	John Gladman John Rust	Representatives	
Sevenoaks	Thos. Harrison	Messenger Lettr.	
	Stephen Colgate John Colgate	R. A Letter	
Dover	A Letter & Case		
Tunbridge Wells	A Letter		
Chichester	A Letter		
Horseham	John Tasker	Elder	
	John Holder Wm Turner	Representatives A Letter	
Ditcherling	Ambross Austin Thos Tullwick	Representatives a Lr.	
Amersham	Dan Beck	Elder	
Barkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messenger	
Leicester Association	Lr.		
	Jonathan Glover	Representative	
Lincolnshire Association	Gilbert Boyce	Minister a Case	
Warbleton	John Goslin	Elder	
*Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	Representative	[Page 109.]
Headcorn	James Cooper	Representative	
Canterbury	Richd. Huggate	Elder a Letter	
	Philip Chapman Stephen Philpot	Representatives	
Webston	Robt. Barret	Elder	
St. Ives	Henry Biggs	Representative	
Brentford	James Pocock		
	Fras. Swinton John Barret	Representatives	

Turners Hill	Isaac Jeffry's Representative Lr.
Western Association	
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobell Elder
Croydon	Amos Harrison Elder
Chatham	Saml. Neale Elder
Smarden	John Austin Elder

On Reading

[South Carolina supplied.] The Minutes of the Last Assembly the first of which relating to the Request of the Church at South Carolina for a Learned and Faithful Minister Bror Grantham Killingworth Inform'd this Assembly That he had Apply'd to Brother Danil. Wheeler

[Page 110.] *Who had Accepted the Invitation and he had Rec'd Information that our said Bror Danl. Wheeler was safely Arrived amongst our Brethren there

[Secular business after spiritual.] It is Resolved by this Assembly that nothing relating to the Second Article agreed to last year be at any time Introduced or entered Upon by us till after the Business which Properly belongs to the Churches of our Lord Jesus Christ are Over, and that Brother Fry do Write to our Brethren at Bessells Green On that Account.

[Fry ordained Messenger] Pursuant to a Motion being made to Call Bror Fry to the Office of Messenger. The Following is a Testimonial Concerning Our Brothers Frys having been Ordained to the Said Office

> Whereas The General Assembly holden at Horsely Down On Wednesday the 1st of June 1757 did unanimously Agree to Chuse and Call to the Messengers Office Our Brother Samuel Fry & he hath accepted his Choice & Call
>
> This is to Testify to all whom it may Concern that our Said Bror Samuel Fry by Fasting Prayer and Laying on of Hands was Ordain'd a Messenger in the Churches on the 11th day of September 1757 at Canterbury [at Canterbury.]
>
> by us Robt. Pyall
> Richard Chilton
> Thomas Harrison
>
> In ye Presence of us
> Thos. Benge
> Richd. Huggett
> Step. Philpot
> John Philpot
> Danl. Brown

[Page 111.] [Many ministers wanted.]

*Several Applications having been made to this Assembly for a Supply in the Ministry Particularly from Bror Pyall at Dover for the Isle of Thanet from Honiton in Devonshire, from Leicester from Smallborough from Downton in Wilts and a Neighbouring Church and so forth It is Earnestly Recommended that any of our Brethren who shall be Acquainted with any person who they shall think Quallify'd and Dispos'd to serve any of the Said Churches to direct to Bror Fry at Horsly Down Fair Street Pk.

[Earl Shilton.]

On Reading a Letter from the Association at Leicester on the behalf of the Church at Earl Shilton who are desirous of Erecting a place for the Worship of God We Request Bror Saml. Neale to instruct them how to Proceed therein and Recommend it to all our Brethren to Assist the Said Church to Put their said Desire in Execution when the Ground they Propose to build On is Properly Convey'd to them for that Purpose

[Non attendance.]

Resolved that an Account be made out of Such Churches as have Neglected to attend this Assembly and that a Letter be drawn up and sent to Each of them Exhorting them to return to their Duty and to be more Dilligent in the Service of their Redeemer and the comfort of their Brethren and that Bror Thos. Harrison and Saml. Fry Benj. Treacher and Grantham Killingworth do draw up and send Such Letter to each of them

[Page 112.]

*Ordered That this Assembly be adjourn'd To Wednesday in the Whitsun Week 1759 then to be held at Brother Fry's Meeting House and that Brother Daniel Dobell is to preach a Sermon at the Opening of that Assembly and On his Default that Brother Benj. Treacher Supply his place- The Service to begin at ½ hour after 10 in ye Morng.

Lastly it is Order'd that this Book be Deposited in the hands of Bror Fry.

[Signatures.]

Gilbert Boyce
Thos. Harrison
Thomas Sexton
Saml. Fry
Benj. Treacher
Alexander Dobson
John Tasker
Danl. Dobel
Danel. Beck
John Gosling

John Gladman
John Rust
Stepn. Colgate
Jno. Colgate
John Older
Wm. Turner
Ambrs. Austen
Thos. Fildwick
Grantm. Killingworth
James Cowper

Richd. Huggett
Robt. Barrett
Jas. Pocock
Amos Harrison
Will. Bell
Joseph Knightly
Simon Tiptaft
John Ayers
John Chapman
Stephen Philpot
Phil. Chapman
Henry Biggs
Francis Swinden
Isaac Jeffery

[Page 113.] [1759, June 6.] [Horsleydown.] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly at Bror Frys Meeting the Sixth day of June 1759 Present

	Samuel Fry Thos Harrison Thos Sexton Gilbert Boyce John Geere	Messengers
Glass House Yard	Benj. Treacher	Elder
	John Barkwith Wm. Bell	R.
Horseley Down	Saml. Fry	Elder
	Thos Hallet Wm. Britain	R.
Mill Yard	John Britain	Elder
	Elias Cherry Geo Simpson	R.
Park	Alex Dobson	Elder
	John Gladman Geo Gardiner	R.
Tunbridge Wells	Henry Arnold	R.
Chichester	Jas Dearling	R.
Horsham	Wm Eversett	Elder
	Chas. Habgood	R.
Ditcherling	James Walder	
Amersham	Dan Beck	Elder
Barkamstead	Thos. Sexton	Elder
[Page 114.] *Lincoln Association	Gilbert Boyce	Elder
Walburton	John Goslin	Elder
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	R.
Canterbury[1]	Philip Chapman	R.
Webston	John Geere Robt Barrat	Elders

---

[1] This entry was begun again after Chatham, and was made again in full after Portsmouth; cancelled in both places.

St. Ives	Henry Biggs Elder
Brentford	Jas. Pocock Elder
	Fras. Swinton John Barret } R.
Turners Hill	Nathl. Palmer R.
Croydon	Amos Harrison Eldr.
Chatham	Saml. Neale Eld.
Aythorne	John Knott Elder
Hilsley	Saml. Chapell R.
Braintree	John Cartwright R.
Portsmouth	Moses Brent Senr. Moses Brent Junr. } R.

A Letter from South Carolina
Do. from Dublin
Do. from Sundon[2]

[Officers.]

Thos. Harrisson	Chairman
Thos Sexton & Gilbert Boyce	Moderators
Danl. Beck John Angell	Scribes

[Page 115.] [South Carolina.] *After Prayer and Reading the first Paragraph of the Proceedings of this Assembly the Last Year a Letter was read from Stone and Charles Town in South Carolina and it was Jointly agreed to send a Letter in answer to it and Bro. Killingworth was unanimously requested to draw up an Answer to it to be likewise Signed by Bro Fry Bror Treacher Bror Brittain & Bro. Dobson in behalf of the Assembly &c.

[Smallburgh.] Upon Reading the Fourth Article of the Want of a Minister at Smalborough this Assembly was informed of John Ellis of Turners Hill who was deem'd Capable, dispos'd and Could be Spar'd from thence Provided the People at Smalborough could make a proper Provision for his Encouragement of which Brother Killingworth was desir'd further to Inform himself

[Earl Shilton building.] A Letter from the Leicester Association was read Acknowledging their Unity with this Society and assuring us that the Land on which a Baptist Meeting was to be built was properly Convey'd according to our advice last year and that a House had been Erected and after Thanking Those who had contributed thereto and desiring farther assistance to that End Bror Neale was refer'd to and Requested to Carry on and Promote the same

---

[2] Originally written, Dover Canterbury, which was cancelled.

[Dublin.] A Letter was Read from Bror Saml. Edwards in Dublin Expressing his great Respect & Esteem of this Assembly[3] and his desire to Promote the knowledge and Practice of Religion and[4] He Communicated an attempt to form a Catechism adapted to that Purpose Bro. Fry was Requested to Write an Answer to it and to Signify the Approbation of this Assembly as to that attempt. [Catechism.]

[Hilsley ordination.] A Letter was Rec'd by the hands of Saml. Chappel requesting this Assembly to Consider of a proper time place & persons for ordaining an Elder at Hilsley it was Agreed that Bror John Geere and Bro. Thos Sexton or one of them go thither for that purpose at such time as shall *be agreed[5] upon by the Parties Respectively. [Page 116.]

Ordered that this Assembly be adjourn'd To the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week 1760 to be held at Bror Frys Meeting House and that Brother Daniel Dobell is to preach a Sermon at the opening of that Assembly and on his Default that Bror Saml. Neale of Chatham Supply his place the Service to begin at half an hour after 10 in the Morning & it is order'd that this Book be Deposited in the hands of Bror[6] Fry.

[Signatures.]

Thos. Harrison
Thomas Sexton
Jno. Geere
Saml. Fry
Gilbert Boyce
Benj. Treacher
John Brittain
Alexander Dobson
Danel. Beck
Jas. Dearling
Jno. Barkwith
Jas. Pocock
John Gladman
Will. Bell

Willm. Brittain
Thos Elliott
Phil Chapman
Moses Brent
Nathl. Palmer
Joseph Edwards
James Walden
Char. Halgood
John Cartwright
William Evershed
John Gosling
Heny. Arnold

---

[3] Originally written, Society, cancelled.

[4] There followed, in Particular a Desire to promote the knowledge and Practice of Religion, cancelled.

[5] Written twice, second cancelled.

[6] Originally, Mr., cancelled.

Robt. Barrett
Amos Harrison Senior
Francis Swinden
Grantm. Killingworth
Elias Cherry
George Simson
Samuel Chapel

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly at Brother Frys Meeting the 20th May 1760

[Page 117.]
[1760, May 20.]
[Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

	Samuel Fry	Messenger
	Thos. Harrison	Do
	Thos. Sexton	Do
	Gilbert Boyce	Do
Glass House Yard	Benj. Treacher	Elder
	John Barkwith	
	Wm Bell	
Horseley Down	Saml. Fry	Elder
	Jos Hackney	
	Simon Tiptaff	
Mill Yard	John Brittain	Elder
	Edward Green	
	Geo. Boyd	
The Park	Allex Dobson	
	John Gladman	
	Geo. Gardener	
Chichester	Isaac Mott	Elder
Horsham	John Tasker	Elder
	Henry Wood	
	Richd. Caffyn	
Ditcherlin	Richd. Pannett	
*Amersham	Dan Beck	Elder
Berkhamsted	Thos. Sexton	Elder
Warburton	John Goslin	Elder
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	
Canterbury	Stephen Philpot	
	Philip Chapman	
Webston	Wm Agate	
Brentford	Jas Pocock	
	Fras. Swinden	
	John Barratt	
Turners Hill	John Ellis	
Croydon	Amos Harrison	
Chatham	Saml. Neale	Elder
Eythorne	John Knott	Elder

[Page 118.]

Braintree & 4 other Churches	Henry Turner
Portsmo.	Isaac Mott R.
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobell Elder
Seven Oaks	Thos. Harrisson Elder
	Jos Edwards R.

[Page 119.] [Officers.]

*May 20th. After Prayer and the Choice of Bro Boyce To be Chairman at this Assembly & of Bror Dobell & Bror Harrison Moderators. The Proceedings of the last (sic) Assembly was read and it appear'd to the Satisfaction of this Society that the Several Articles had been Properly attended to by ye persons Deputed

[Dublin catechism approved.]

Several Letters were Read which had been Transmitted to this Assembly When it was unanimously Agreed. I That an affectionate Letter be Wrote by Bro. Saml. Fry & Bro. Benj Treacher to Bro. Edwards of Dublin acknowledging the Approbation of his Catechism by the Several Members who had read it Thanking him for his good Wishes for the Welfare and Prosperity of the Church of Christ and that as he had kindly intimated his desire of seeing and joining wth. us in our Annual Assembly The Several Members Constituting this Assembly Send their Christian Respect assuring him that his Visit will be highly Agreeable to them whenever Providence Favour his Intention.

[Dobell, Evershed, Hugget and Walder Messengers.]

An Account being read of the Association of the Churches of Kent Sussex and Surry wherein it was Agreed to Chuse Bror Daniel Dobell Bro Wm Evershot Bror Richd Hagget and Bror Thos Walder to be Messengers the Same was approv'd of by the Majority of this Assembly.

Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in the Whitsun Week 1761 to be held at the Meeting of Bror Fry in Horsely Down and that Bror Saml. Neale preach a Sermon at the opening of that Assembly and on his Default that Bro John Brittain Supply his place The Service to begin at half an hour after 10 in the Morning & that this Book be Deposited in the hands of Bror Fry.

[Page 120.] [Signatures.[1]]

*Thos. Harrison
Saml. Fry
Thomas Sexton
John Brittain
Alexander Dobson
Jno. Knott
Amos Harrison
Ed. Green
Geo. Boyd
Jno. Barkwith
John Ellis
Joseph Edwards
Grantm. Killingworth
Henry Turner
Joseph Hackney

---

[1] All but two are in one column.

Saml, Neale
John Tasker
Danel. Beck
Will, Bell
Jas. Pocock
Francis Swinden
Simon Tiptaft
Henry Wood
Richard Pannett

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly at Bror Frys Meeting House the 13th of May 1761

[Page 121.]
[1761, May 13.]
[Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

	Saml Fry	Messenger	
	Thos Harrison	Do	
	Thos Sexton	Do	
Glass House Yard	Benj. Treacher	Elder	
	Wm Bell John Barkwith	R.	
Horsley Down	Saml Fry	Elder	
	Hezekiah Phillips Josh. Knightly	R.	
Mill Yard	John Britain	Elder	
	Dad. Willmot Chas. Williams	R.	
Park	Allex Dobson	Elder	
	John Gladman Geo Gardiner	R.	Case
Sevenoaks	Thos. Harrison	Mess.	
	Jos. Edwards	R.	
Canterbury	Richd. Hugget	Elder	
Tunbridge Wells	Henry Arnold Wm Fowley	R.	
Ditcherling	Aaron Lampier	R.	
Warbleton	John Goslin	Elder	
*Turners Hill	Nathl. Palmer	R.	
Webston	John Piesley		
Croydon	Amos Harrison		
Coggeshall Braintree	Hen Turner	Elder	
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth		
St. Ives	Hen Biggs	R[1]	
Berkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messr.	
	James Young	R.	
Horseham	John Tasker	Elder	
	Cha. Hopgood Abra Nettlefold	R.	
Amersham	Dan Beck	Elder	

[Page 122.]

---

[1] Originally, Elder, cancelled.

Northampton Association[2]	John Yeoman Thos. Stranger	Elders
Liecestersh Association	Richd. Green	Elder
	Thos Keston	
Brentford	John Barratt	R.
Hilsley	—— Masson	
Chatham	Saml Neale	Elder
Portsmo.	John Austin	
Stone in South Carolina	A Letter	

[Page 123.] [Officers.] *May 13 1761 After Prayer and the Choice of Bro. Harrison to be Chairman in this Assembly and of Bror Sexton & Bror Turner to be Moderators. The Proceedings of the last Assembly was Read and it appear'd to the Satisfaction of this Society that the Several Articles had been properly attended to by Persons Deputed.

[Dublin.] A Letter was read by Bror Saml. Edwards desiring to have the further opinion of this Assembly relating to his Catechism and of their being made proper use & it was Concluded to Confirm to him in a Second Letter the Approbation of such of the Society who had read it and assure him of their hearty Esteem of him for his good Intention and wishing him great Success to his present Scheme of Opening a Lecture for wch. purpose Bro Fry & such other Friends as he might Chuse were desir'd to Write to him.

[Dobell and Evershed.] With Regard to the Second Article Viz. Inviting Bro. Dobell & Bro. Evershed to accept the Office of Messenger The Same appears to be Complied with in Conformity to the Sollicitation of Friends Provided they had the Unanimous Consent of the Respective Societies to which they at present Stand more Immediately Related and the Joint Voice of the Assembly. which was Immediately Confirm'd.

The Case of the Baptist Meeting House in the Park being read setting forth the Necessity of rebuilding the same and Requesting that it be Recommended by this Assembly to their Respective Societys to make such Liberal Contributions as the Importance of the Case Require and their Circumstances will admit.[3]

[Need of ministers.] The Case of the Baptist Church at Leicester and of Smeeton and of Smallborough [4]was represented[4] as Standing in Need of Ministers was taken into Consideration & Recommended to the Respective Societies to Consider of proper persons if any such among them who can be *Spar'd & that they will Communicate advice thereof to Bro. Saml Fry. [Page 124.]

---

[2] Yeoman was of Kettering, Stanger of North Moulton, Green of Earl Shilton.

[3] The contributions were not liberal enough, and the debt ruined the church.

[4] Interlined.

It was Likewise Communicated by the Society at Hillsly that they were under some difficulty as to the Choice of a Minister and desir'd the advice of this Assembly whether to make Choice of a person who had for some time Exercis'd amongst them and of unexceptionable Moderate Principles or to give preference to a person of Learning at Bristol who now offers himself—It was Concluded to Recommend to them to Incourage that person who has for some time Officiated amongst them and at the same time to give proper encouragemt. so far as may be Consistant with the Opinion and Advice of Mr. Evans & Mr. Foot) & Mr. Needham of Bristol. to the other person That he may become Useful to that or some[4] other Societies of General Baptist. [Hilsley.]

A Letter was read from Bror Wheeler at Stone in South Carolina it was Recommended to Bro. Grantham Killingworth to Write an Answer to it [South Carolina.]

A Letter from Coggeshall was read Representing the Need they Stood in of a more Convenient place to Meet in and Requesting the Assistance of the Respective Societies for that purpose It was accordingly Approv'd of and Recommended. [Coggeshall.]

Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to Wednesday in the Next Whitsun Week 1762 at the Meeting of Bro Fry in Horsly Down and that Bro John Britain Preach a sermon at the opening of the Assembly And on his Default that Bror Henry Turner Supply his place the Service to begin at half an hour after 11 in the Morning and that this Book be Deposited in the hands of Mr. Fry.

[Page 125.]
[Signatures.[5]]

*Saml. Fry
Thomas Sexton
Thos. Harrison
Henry Turner
James Young
Benj. Treacher
John Brittain
Alexander Dobson
George Gardner
Will. Bell
John Tasker
Grantm. Killingworth
David Wilmott
Charles Williams
Joseph Edwards
Nathl. Palmer
Hezh. Phillips
Abra. Nettlefold
Jos. Knightly
Aron Lempriere
Chas. Habgood
Richd. Green
Thomas Stanger
Jo. Yeomans

---

[5] The first two columns here form one in the original.

John Gladman
Saml. Neale
Amos Harrison
John Barrett
Richard Huggett
Henry Biggs
John Piesly

[Page 126 blank.]

[Page 127.] [1762, June 2.] [Horsleydown.] *The Proceedings of the Genl. Assembly held by Adjournment at Brother Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown the 2d. day of June 1762.

Present	Samuel Fry Thomas Harrison Daniel Dobell John Geare William Evershed	Messengers
Glasshouse Yard Church	Benjamin Treacher	Elder
	John Barkwith Thomas Piety Junr.	Representatives
Horslydown	Samuel Fry	Elder
	Hezehiah Phillips Thomas Aylward	Representatives
Mill Yard[1]	John Brittain	Elder
	David Willmott Ely	Representatives
The Park Southwark (A Case)	Alexander Dobson	Elder
	John Gladman George Gardner	Representatives
Chichester	James Dearling	Do.
Horsham	Wm Evershed John Tasker	Elders
Ditcherling	John Brown	Representative
	A Letter	
Berkhampstead	James Young	Elder
	Caleb Cock	Representative
Warbleton (A Letter)	John Goslin	Elder
	Nathl. Brown	Representative
[Page 128.] *Norwich Church	Grantham Killingworth	Representative
Canterbury	Richd. Huggett	Elder
Webstone	John Greare	Elder
Brainford	John Barrett	Representative
Turners Hill	Nathl. Palmer Thomas Tourle	Representatives

---

[1] This church, best known hitherto as Goodmans Fields, was not content with hiring Mill Yard from the Sabbatarians, but had raised a subscription to build itself a new home. This was rising on Church Lane, Whitechapel, and was occupied on March 23 next year. In the minutes henceforth it appears under that title.

Chatham	Samuel Neale	Elder
Eythorne	John Knott	Elder
Braintree & 4 other Churches	Henry Turner	Representative
Portsmouth	Daniel Austin	Elder
Cranbrook	Daniel Dobell	Elder
Seven Oaks (A Letter)	Thomas Harrison Samuel Benge	Elders
(Certificate of ye Ordination, &c)	Robert Sale	Representative
Isle of Thanett	Thos. Piety Senr.	Representative
Isle of Wight	John Sturch	Elder
Stone in South Carolina	A Letter	

A Letter from Brother Edwards at Dublin was Read immediately after Brother John Geare was Chosen Chairman and Brothers Thomas Harrison & Daniel Dobell Moderators in this Assembly. Then the Proceedings of the Last Assembly were Read & it Appear'd that the Direction of the first Article thereof was fulfilled.—And this Assembly Requests Brothers Fry *Fry, Britain, Treacher & Dobson to Write to him on the Behalf of this Assembly Acknowledging the Receipt of his Letter with Thanks & Testifying their Sincere Wishes for the Success of his Labours & for the Encrease of the Numbers Zeal & Happiness of the true followers of Christ in Ireland, [Officers.] [Page 129.] [Dublin.]

In Pursuance of the Second Article of the Minutes of last Assembly a Certificate of the Ordination of Brothers Dobell & Evershed to the Office of Messengers of the Churches on the 28th of July last was read by Brother Geare. [Dobell and Evershed ordained.]

The 3d. & 6th Articles of the Minutes of the Last Assembly are Continued for the Benefit of the respective Churches therein concerned. [Leicester, Smallburgh, Coggeshall.]

A Letter from Brother Wheeler at Stone in South Carolina acknowledging the Receipt of a Letter Directed to be sent to him by the last Assembly [2]was read[2] & this Assembly requests Brother Killingworth to Write to him again as soon as he can Conveniently [South Carolina.]

It having been represented to this Assembly that the Practice of Gaming is a Growing Evil It is the Opinion of this Assembly That all kinds of Gaming should be Discountenanc'd as an Hinderance of a Proper Improvemt. in Christian Knowledge & Virtue which that time might better [Gambling.]

---

[2] Interlined.

Admit & as such may perhaps[3] be Evil in its Nature & fatal in its Tendency & we hereby bear our Testimony against [4]these Practices.[4]

Order'd that this Assembly be adjourn'd to the Wednesday in the next Whitson Week 1763 then to be held at Brother Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown Fair Street Southwark And that Brother Henry Turner do Preach a Sermon at the opening of that Assembly & on his Default that [Page 130.] *Brother Thomas Piety Senr do Supply his Place the Service to begin at Ten o'Clock in the forenoon & that this Book be left in the Hands of Brother Fry.

[Signatures.]

Jno. Geere
Thos. Harrison
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Saml. Fry
Alexander Dobson Elder
John Gladman
George Gardner
Nathl. Palmer
Richd. Huggett
Thomas Turll
Grantm. Killingworth
Jno. Knott
Benj. Treacher
Thos. Piety
John Barkwith
John Sturch
James Young
Caleb Cock

John Tasker
Robt. Sale
Jos. Swinden
John Barrett
Geo. Mockford

[Page 131.]
[1763, May 25.]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of the Genl. Assembly held by Adjournment at Brother Fry's Meeting House in Horslydown 25th May 1763.

[Members present.]

Present
Saml. Fry Senr.
Danl. Dobell
Wm. Evershed
John Geare
} Messengers

---

[3] At a much later period this word was crossed through.

[4] Originally, them.

Daniel Dobell, Chosen Chairman [Officers.]

Wm Evershed John Geare	Moderators
James Curtis	Scribe

From		
Glasshouse Yard	Benjamin Treacher	Elder
	Joshua Wade Stephen Dendy	Representatives
Horslydown Fair Street	Saml. Fry Senr.	Elder
	Joseph Knightley John Gee	Representatives
The Park Southwark	Alexander Dobson	Elder
	John Gladman George Gardner	Representatives
Church Lane White Chapel	John Britain	Elder
	Benjamin Lewis Theodatus Dean	Representatives
Cranbrook	Daniel Dobell	Elder a Letter
Seven Oaks	William Agate Saml. Benge Junr.	Representatives
	Two Letters	
Canterbury	Philip Chapman	Representative
	A Letter	
Turnbridge Wells	James Mogeridge	Representative
Horsham	Wm Evershed	Messenger
	John Tasker	Elder
Ditcherling	James Walder	Representative
	A Letter	
Webstone	John Geare	Elder
Warbleton	John Gosling	Elder
	Nathanael Brown	Representative
Headcorn	A Letter	
*Croydon	Peter Webb	Representative [Page 132.]
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	Representative
Berkhamstead	James Young	Elder
	Caleb Cock	Representative
Northamptonshire Association	John Yeomans	one of their Elders
Leicester Association	A Letter[1]	

---

[1] Except for two more letters, this Association has given its last sign of life. In 1762 the self-baptized Methodists of Leicestershire organized into five churches linked into one fellowship. In 1770 they united with three from the Lincoln Association and some from London, Kent and Essex to form "An

Braintford	Francis Swinsden John Barrett	Representatives
Hillsley Glostershr.	Samuel Chappel A Letter	Representative
Chatham	John Neale	Elder
Turners Hill	Nathanl. Palmer A Letter	Representative
Portsmouth	Daniel Austin	Elder Preacher for the Day
Dublin	A Letter	

[Business arising out of minutes.] The Proceedings of the Last Assembly were Read after Prayer

Enquiry being made how the first Article thereof was Performed to which Brother Fry Answered that a Letter had been sent to him accordingly and he also Inform'd the Assembly that he had reced. anr. Letter from Brother Saml. Edwards which was Produced and read accordingly & the Thanks of this Assembly desired to be sent him for his Love & Zeal [1. Dublin.]

[2. South Carolina.] Brother Killingworth read the Answer he at the Request of Last Years Assembly sent to Bror Wheeler in South Carolina & [2]it was[2] approved.

[Thomas Harrison and Cranbrook.] Brother Fry Inform'd this Assembly that he had reced. a Letter from Brother Thomas Harrison (who by Infirmity of Body is prevented from attending here) which was read,

---

Assembly of Free-Grace General Baptists" better known as the New Connexion. And in 1771 the Leicester and Lincoln churches formed a Northern Association within that Assembly. As the Southern collapsed almost at once, the new Assembly became identical with the Northern or only Association; the Leicester Methodists were the backbone of this new society, and their Association held annual meetings from 1772 onwards. It must not be confounded with the old Leicester Association here mentioned, though it will be heard of presently at this Assembly. The Leicester church lost its Elder, T. Davye, a scrivener, about 1750, and it is not clear that another was ever ordained. Services were no longer held regularly, and the cause would have collapsed but for a small endowment. It was rescued by the New Connexion, which it joined in 1781. Knipton also in 1801 passed over; in 1808 the old Earl Shilton church abandoned the Assembly and merged into the Hinckley New Connexion church; a year or two later a member of Hinckley settling at Fleckney founded a new cause which absorbed the old cause at Smeeton after a few years. But these four cases, the only links in the county, bring out clearly that there was no organic continuity of Association; the old just ceased to meet; a new one grew so vigorous that it began instituting sub-divisional conferences on Methodist lines, Lincolnshire in 1791, Nottinghamshire in 1803, &c., &c.

[2] Interlined.

together with another from the Church at Cranbrook & the Assembly request [2]Brother Fry with[2] the London Brethren to draw up a Letter suitable to [2]the Intent of[2] both which wn. copy'd is to be sent to the Messengers respectively[2] & by them Circulated amongst their Churches & it is requested that they will Add thereto any Thing they Think may be of Service to the Cause of Christ[3]

[Hillsleys ordination.]

[Page 133.]

The Assembly being Inform'd that the Church at Hillsley have made Choice of Brother Wm Hitchman to be their Minister & desire to have him Ordain'd into the Pastoral Office there in a Proper Manner *It is recommended to Brother Geare to go there to Ordain him into that Office, if the Members of that Church shall Unanimously request the same

[The Circular Letter.]

In the Letter requested to be Written by Bror Fry & the London Ministers Uniting with this Assembly pursuant to the Excellent Letters from Bror Harrison & Brethren at Cranbrook We request the Letters from Brethren at Canterbury [2]Turners Hill[2] & Headcorne be properly attended to and Copies thereof sent to the Messengers as before Directed

[Messengers wanted.]

Order'd that this Assembly be Adjourn'd to the Wednesday in Whitson Week 1764 then to be held at the same Place & that Brother Turner or Brother Piety [2]and in case of their Default Bror Wm Evershed[2] be requested to Preach a Sermon before tthe other Business of the Assembly begins the Service to begin at 10 in the Forenoon and that this Book shall remain with Brother Fry—then the Assembly Concluded wth. Prayer Having first recommended it to the Associations of our Brethren where held & the Churches where not to Choose and Nominate some able and faithfull Ministers to be Ordain'd Messengers of the Churches where wanted.

[Signatures.]

Danl. Dobel
Jno. Geere
W. Evershed
Benj. Treacher
Alexander Dobson
John Tasker
Daniel Austen
James Young

Grantm. Killingworth
Frans. Swinden
Benjn. Lewis
Deodatus Dean
George Gardner
Jo Yeomans
Jos. Knightly
John Jee

---

[3] Half a line has been quite obliterated from this minute. Brother Curtis was apparently new to the work, and had to add a further note below.

John Gladman
Nathl. Palmer
Phil Chapman
Caleb Cock
Samuel Chappel
James Walden
Steph. Dendy
Saml. Fry Senr.

[Page 134 blank.]

[Page 135.] [1764, June 13.] [Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held by Adjournment at Brother Fry's Meeting-house in Horsly-down the 13 of June 1764.

[Members present.]

Present
Samuel Fry Senr.
Daniel Dobell
William Evershed
John Geare
Gilbert Boyce
Thomas Sexton
Messengers

[Officers.]

Gilbert Boyce - Chosen Chairman

John Geare
Thomas Sexton
Moderators

Horsly Down	Brother Fry	Elder
	Joseph Knightly John Mudgeridge	Representatives
Do. - - under the Care of Brother Treacher[1]	William Bell Stephen Denby	Representatives
The Park	Alexander Dobson,	Elder
	John Gladman George Gardiner	Representatives
Church Lane, Whitechapel	John Britton	Elder
	Joseph Wedgeborough John Long	Representatives
Cranbrook	Daniel Dobell,	Elder
	Charles Titford	Representative
[Page 136.] *Seven-oaks	David Sale John Colgate	Representatives Letter
Canterbury	Philip Chapman	Represent. Letter
Horsham	William Evershed	Elder
	Abraham Southdon,	Represent.

---

[1] This was the Glass-House Yard church. The same building was often used in those times by quite distinct churches, meeting on different days—as often now in Australia, or at different hours of the same day—as Catholics and Protestants in Elsass. Within the next twenty years the expiration of leases caused much shifting and sharing among the London churches, as is traced in the Introduction.

Hitcherling	James Welder - Letter	
Webstern	John Geare Elder	
Warbleton	John Gosling Elder	
	Nathaniel Brown Repres.	
Berkhampstead	Thomas Sexton Elder	
Leicester Association	A Letter	
Turner's Hill	Nathaniel Palmer A Letter	
Portsmouth	Daniel Austin, Elder	
South Carolina	A Letter	
Stelling	Stephen Philpott Elder	
Eythorn	John Knott Elder	
	Vincent Ladd, Repres.	
Dover		
Deal		
Wingham		
Isle of Thanet	Thomas Piety Senr. Represent	
Hythe		
*Brentford	John Barret Represent.	[Page 137.]
Braintree		
St. Ives		
Amersham		
Winslow		
Newport Isle of Wight		
Marden		
Chichester	James Dearling	
Chatham		
Tunbridge Wells		
Hildsey	Thomas Chappell a Letter	
Lincolnshire Association	a Case and a Request	

[Officers.] June 13, 1764. After Prayer and the Choice of Brother Boyce to be Chairman in this Assembly and of Brother Sexton and Brother Geare to be Moderators.

[Dan Taylor's building.] All those who are representatives of this Assembly that approve the Case of Brother Dan Taylor as has been represented concerning building a Meeting house and will encourage the same are desired to publish it to the respective churches to which they belong and likewise that Brother Samuel Fry and Benjamin Treacher are desired to send circular Letters to our several Churches recommending the above Case.[2]

---

[2] Dan Taylor was a young man of 26, who in 1762 had broken with the Methodists of Halifax and had fitted up a house for worship in Wadsworth. a few miles to the west of that town. Becoming convinced that believers should be baptized, he applied to a Baptist minister who lived close by, probably Joshua Wood of Halifax, or John Thomas of Heptonstall. But they were

Ordered that this Assembly be adjourned to Wednesday [Page 138.] in the next Whitsun Week 1765 at the *Meeting-house of Brother Fry in Horsly Down and that Brother William Evershed Preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly and at his default that Bror. John Knott is to supply his Place, the Service to begin at half an hour after Ten o'clock in the Morning, and that this Book be deposited in the hands of Mr. Fry.

[Signatures.]

Gilbert Boyce
Thomas Sexton
Jno. Geere
Saml. Fry
Danl. Dobel
W. Evershed
Benj. Treacher
Vincent Lade
Will. Bell

Jas. Dearling
Jos. Knightly
Phil Chapman
Thos. Piety
John Gladman
Stephen Philpot
James Walder
David Sale
Jno. Colgate
Abraham Southon
Charles Titford

[Page 139.]
[1765, May 29,]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held by adjournment at the Meeting house of Brother Fry at Horselydown May 29 1765.[1]

[Members present.]

Horseleydown under the care of Brother Fry	John Gee Thos. Elliott	Rep.
Do. under the care of Brother Treacher	Wm. Bell Stepn. Dendey	Rep.

---

staunch Calvinists, and could not enter into such an official relation to any one who followed Wesley rather than Whitfield in the doctrine of universal atonement. There were other Baptist ministers near by, Richard Smith at Wainsgate, William Crabtree at Bradford, James Hartley at Haworth, Thomas Ashworth at Gildersome, John Oulton at Rawden, Alverey Jackson at Barnoldswick, Henry Clayton of Salendine Nook, Joseph Piccop of Bacup, Charles Bamford of Oakenshaw, James Winterbottom of Manchester. But no single one would baptize a non-Calvinist, and all they would do was to tell him that at Boston in Lincolnshire was a Baptist church where William Thompson, just removing from Hull, held doctrines nearer his own. He was baptized at Gamston, and joined the Lincolnshire Association. During 1763 Thompson and Boyce went and ordained him pastor over a newly formed church at Wadsworth, and preparations were made to build at Birchcliff. The Lincolnshire Association backed the case, and now the whole Assembly agreed to further it. Next year the young man came in person to collect.

[1] A new scribe now holds the pen.

The Park	Alexander Dobson Elder John Gladman Geo Gardiner } Rept.
Church Lane Whitechapel	John Britton Elder Stepn. Willmot John Shephard } Rept.
Canterbury	a Letter Phillip Chapman Rept.
Horseham under the care of Wm. Evershed	
Ditchling	Peter Brown Rept. a Letter
Webstern under the care of	John Geare
Berkhampstead under the care of Thos. Sexton	
Turners hill	Nathaniel Palmer
Portsmouth	Danl. Austin
Brentford	John Barret Repr.
St. Ives	Henry Biggs
Chichester	James Spershott Elder
Chatham	Saml. Neale Elder
Tunbridge Wells	James Muggeridge
Lincolnshire Association	a Letter Dan Taylor
Hildsey	a Letter
Northamptonshire Association	Thos. Stanger Rep. a Case
Milborn	Thos. Baron Rep.
Coggshall	Henry Turner Elder
*Norwich	Grantham Killingworth Rep. [Page 140.]
Present	Samuel Fry Thos. Sexton Danl. Dobel John Geare Wm. Evershed } Messengers

The Letter from Ditchling being read in which they Signified an Association to be held on the 9 of June next at which they desired the Assistance of Brother Evershed and Brother Dobel persuant to which Request this Assembly has Requested their attendance and they have Consented [Kent Association.]

The paper of Queries received from the Lincolnshire Association are referred to Brother Fry Brother Treacher and Brother Killingworth to write an answer to them [Lincoln Association.]

The affair of The meeting hous at Wadsworth Near Halifax in yorkshire to be further considered by the above persons [Birchcliff.]

Order'd that this Assembly be adjouned to the Wednesday in Whitsun week next 1766 at the meeting house of Brother Fry at Horseley down and that Brother John Nott

Preach a Sermon at the Opening of the Assembly and at his Default that Brother James Spershott is to supply his place the Service to begin at half an hour after ten O.Clock in the Morning and that this Book be deposited in the Hands of Mr. Fry

[Page 141.] [Signatures.[2]]

*Jno. Geere
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Saml. Fry
Thomas Sexton
Benj. Treacher
Saml. Neale

Phil Chapman
Danl Austen
George Gardner
Dan Taylor
Henry Biggs
Thomas Barron
Grantm. Killingworth

Nath. Palmer
Stepn. Bath Willmot
John Sheppard
John Jee
David Sale
Peter Browne
Tho. Stanger

[Page 142.] [1766, May 21.] [Horsleydown.] *The Proceeding of the General Assembly held by adjounment at meeting house lately under the care of Brother Fry Horselydown May 21 1766

[Members present.]

	Jos. Brown Jos. Knightly	Rep
Do. under the care of	Brother Treacher	
	Thos. Bell Stepn. Dendey	Rep
The Park under the care of	Brother Dobson	Elder
	Geo. Gardiner Saml Benge	Rep
[1]Church lane under the care of Brother Briton		
	Thos. william Preston Chas. Williams	Rep
Canterbury under the care of	Brother Chapman	
	Phillip Chapman	Rep
Horsham	William Turner	Rep
Webston	Peter Picsly	Rep
Berkhamstead	Thos Sexton	Messenger
[Page 143.] *Turnershill	Nathl, Palmer	Elder
Portsmouth	Daniel Austen	Elder
Brentford	John Barret	Representative
St. Ives	Henry Biggs	
Chatham	Saml, Neale	Elder
Tunbridge wells	Thos, Moorhouse	Rep.
Hilsdey	Saml, Chapel	Rep.

---

[2] In one column.

[1] Preceding this are other entries, with the beginning of minutes, all cancelled. They are given again below in their proper place.

Northamptonshire Association	Jno, Stanger	Rep.
Headingham Association	Chas. Palmer[2]	Rep
Leiceister Association	a Letter	
Croyden	Peter Webb	Rep
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	Rep
Bessels Green	Saml, Benge	Elder
	Danl, Searle Rd, Burgess	Rep
Cranbrook	Danl, Dobel	Messenger
	Chas, Titford	Rep
Hythe	John Geere	Rep
Isle of Thanet	Thos. Piety	Rep
Wingham	Thos. Chapman Robt Questom	Rep
Eythorne	John Nott	Elder

As Brother Dobel and Brother Evershed were appointed to visit our Brethren at Ditcherlin we understand brother Evershed has accordingly been [Business arising out of minutes.]

*The queries of the Lincolnshire association [3]last year[3] being now Read with the answer which last was approved [Page 144.]

The letter from Ditcherling being read was approved and the Contents Recommended by the Assembly together with the letter signed by Brother Fry and Brother Treacher by order of the Assembly three years since

Orderd That that this Assembly be adjourned to the wednesday in Whitsunweek 1767 at the late Brother Fry's Meeting house Horselydown and that Brother James Spershott preach a sermon at the opening of this Assembly and at his Default Joseph Brown is to supply his place the service to begin at half an hour after ten O'Clock in the Morning

Order'd that this book be deposited in the Hands of Mr. Brown

Whereas it has Pleased god to remove by Death our late worthy Brother Fry[3] Whose labours as a Messenger of the Churches was at all times and in all places so very acceptable and as London is the Center of Correspondence a motion has been made and approved by[3] this Assembly that all the Churches and messengers belonging thereto Do consider of a proper person for that very useful Office and Recommend such to the next Assembly [Messengers wanted.]

---

[2] The Essex Association had not been represented since 1747. Now Charles Parman was evidently reviving it, with curious results in four years.

[3] Interlined.

[Page 145.]
[Signatures.]

*Danl. Dobel } Messengers
Thomas Sexton }
Saml. Benge
Joseph Brown
Johr. Brittain
Benj. Treacher
Phil Chapman
Saml. Neale
Thos. Piety
Nathl. Palmer
Thos. Moorhouse
Henry Biggs
John Stanger
Charles Parman
Grantm. Killingworth
Jos. Knightly
Wm Preston
Charles Williams
George Gardner
Saml. Benge junr.
Robt. Quested
Thos. Chapman
Cha. Titford
Peter Webb
John Geere Junr.
W. Turner
David Sale
Samuel Chapel
Richd. Burgess

[Page 146.]
[1767, June 10.]
[Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly held at the Meeting House in Horsley Down fair Street June 10th 1767

[Members present.]

Present	Thos. Sexton John Geere Danl. Dobel Wm. Evershead	Messengers
Glasshouse Yard late Mr. Treacher's	Mr. Bell & Stephn. Dandy	Representatives
Horsley Down under the care of J. Brown	Mr. Philips & Muggeridge	Representatives
Church Lane	Mr. Brittain	Elder
	John Price & Saml Shenston	Represent.
Park	Saml Benge & George Gardner	Reprs.
Hilsley	Wm. Hitchman	Elder
Cranbrook	Charles Titford	Represve.
Seven Oaks	John Stranger & John Colegate	Reptvs.

Canterbury	Philip Chapman	Reprtv.	
Tunbridge Wells	Joseph Haines	Repres.	
Chichester	James Sparshot	Elder	
Horsham	Wilm. Turner	Representative	
Ditcherley	John Brown	Representative	
Warebleton	Henry Edward	Pastor	
Turners Hill	Thos. Turrel & Nath. Palmer	Elders	
*Cogershall	Robt. French	Representative	[Page 147.]
Braintree	Richd. Hume	Elder	
Castle Hemington	Chas. Parman	Representative	
Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	Reprve.	
St. Ives	Henry Biggs	Repr.	
Barkhampstead			
Northampton Assosiation	Thos. Stanger	Elder	
Lincolnshire Do.	Dan Taylor	Elder	
Chatham	Saml. Neal	Elder	
Wingham	Thos. Chapman	Representative	
Portsmouth	Mr. Danl. Austin	Elder	
Ramsgate	Nath. Rowland & John Griggs	Representatives	

[Officers.] John Geere being appointed Chairman
& Danl. Dobel & Thos. Sexton Moderators

The following Letters were read & Cases related

[Glass-house Yard.] Glashouse Yard representing their Case as in Want of a Pastor or Elder, it was referd to the Consideration of the Messengers to point out a proper Person to take the pastoral Care over them.

[Hillsley.] Hilsley Letter being read representing their Poverty & inability to support their Elder, we recommend them to such as have Ability to assist them

[Sevenoaks.] Seven Oaks Letter of Congratulation read & approv'd as also was two others from Canterbury & Ditcherly

[Royal bounty.] Lincolnshire Assosiation The Cases of Wm. Soulden requesting assistance from the Kings Bounty *we refer to [Page 148.] Dr. Stennet[1] as a proper Person to apply to for assistance

---

[1] The first time that the existence of a Particular Baptist is recognized. Samuel Stennett had succeeded his father Dr. Joseph Stennett at Little Wild Street, and had himself been lately created D.D. by Aberdeen. He was a Baptist dispenser of the Regium Donum, an annual grant of about £1000, administered at this time in doles of not more than £5 at the discretion of seven ministers and nine laymen, among the poor ministers of the Presbyterians, Independents and Baptists. Since 1760 the money did not come direct from the hereditary revenues of the crown, but out of a new Civil List

& that the Churches belonging to the Lincolnshire Assosiation who request our Advice how to obtain some religious Books[2] for the Benefit of the Poor, do make their Application to some of the Members of the Book Society for promoting Christian Knowledge[3]

[S.P.C.K.]

[Messengers wanted.]

It was also agreed that the Choice of a Messenger, as proposed in our last Assembly, be deferd to our next Annual Meeting & that our seperate Churches belonging to this Assembly[4] do consider of proper Persons to be appointed to that usefull Office in the Several Counties, where such Messengers are wanting. & that[2] proper Notice be given of such Nomination[5] to the present[6] Messengers [7]that on their Approbation they may be accordingly[8] fixed in that Office after they have been reported and approv'd by the general Assembly

Agreed that this Assembly be adjournd to Wednesday in Whitsunweek 1768 & then held at the Meeting House in Horsley down fair Street & that J. Brown do preach the Sermon on opening the Assembly and on his Default Brother Richard Hume do supply the Place.

Service to begin at half an hour after Ten in the Morning

Orderd that this Book be deposited in the Hands of J. Brown

[Signatures.]

Jno. Geere
Thomas Sexton
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Jos. Brown
John Brittain
Wm. Hitchman

Saml. Neale
Jas. Spershott
Thomas Stanger
Dan Taylor
Nathl. Palmer
Richard Hume
Thos. Turll
John Stanger
Phil Chapman

---

fixed by Parliament for the life of the king. The grant became liable to an annual vote in 1804, and was abolished in 1851 at the express and earnest wish of the Dissenters.

[2] Interlined.

[3] This Catholicity diminishes the significance of the reference to Stennett.

[4] Originally written, Assosiation.

[5] Originally written, Choice.

[6] Originally written, other.

[7] The words, already chosen, precede and are cancelled.

[8] The word, be, is repeated next and cancelled.

[Page 149.]

*Grantm. Killingworth
George Gardner
Saml Benge junr.
Cha. Titford
Jno. Colgate
Henry Edwards
Joseph Hains
Thomas Chapman
John Price
John Browne
Wm. Turner

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Meeting house in Horslydown fair Street May 25 1768 [Page 150.] [1768, May 25.] [Horsleydown.]

[Members present.]

Present	John Geere Thos Sexton Danl. Dobel	Messengers
Glasshouse	Danl. Noble[1]	Elder
	Joseph Watson Wm. Bateman	Rep
Horseleydown	Jos. Brown	Elder
	John Muggeridge Hezh. Phillips	Rep
The Park	Wm Summers	Elder
	Geo. Gardner Ed Raine	Rep
Church street	Jno. Briton	Elder
	Jno. Henry Jno. Brown	Rep
Cranbrook	Jno. Geere	Messenger
Sevenoakes	Saml. Benge	
	Davd. Searle Benn. Martin	Rep
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman	Elder
Horsham	Wm. Turner	Rep a Letter
Ditcherling	James Walder	Rep
Worbleton	Heny. Edwards	Elder
Turnershill	Thos. Turle Nat. Palmer	Elders
*Milburn & Fulbourn	Thos. Barron	Rep
Coggshall	Robt. French Jno. Wing	Rep
Castle Headingham	Charles Parman	Rep

[Page 151.]

---

[1] Since 1755 Daniel Noble had been pastor of the Sabbatarian church owning the premises in Mill Yard. As the Goodmans Fields church had hired them for awhile, he had had good opportunities of understanding the Assembly. Now he became Elder also of the Glass-house yard church, and this may have facilitated its transfer back to the north of the river, into the Paul's Alley premises in the Barbican.

Norwich	Grantham Killingworth	Rep
Berkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messenger
Chatham	Saml. Neale	Elder
Brentford	Jno. Barret	Rep

[Officers.]
Jno. Geere Chairman
Jno. Briton }
Jos. Brown } Moderators

1. [Rushall,] The Case at Russell in Wiltshire near ye Devises in relation to a Minister Recommended to any of the members of this Assembly who may know of one suitable to write to Brother Geere of Farnham or Brother Briton of London

2. [Messengers to be Elders first.] Mention being made of Ordaining a Minister to the Mesengers Office before he has been Ordaind an Elder it thought to be Most regular & Orderly for a Minister to be first Ordained to ye Pastoral Office after trial then to that of a Messenger

3. [Rhode Island college.] The Credentials of the Rev. Mr. Morgan Edwards from Phelidelphia in Pensylvania being satisfactory to this Assembly and he having laid before us the printed state of the Baptist[2] Colledge in Rhode Island in America & the Design thereof being approved [2]by us[2] we do recommend the same to the serious Consideration of the several Congregations belonging to this Assembly [2]to make collections[2] and promote private Contrbutions for the same (the Immediate[2] Expence of which is Supposed to require about two Thousand Pound) and that the money so collected be remmitd to the Rev Dr. Jos. Jeffries[3] or the Rev Mr. Danl. Noble in London and that this Minute be[2] in behalf of this Assembly[4] Signed by Mr. Grantham Killingworth[5]

[Page 152.] *Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to Wednesday in Whitsun Week 1769 at the Meeting-house in Horsleydown fair street and that Brother Richard Hume do Preach the Sermon on opening the Assembly and on his Default Brother John Boorman Service to begin at half an hour after ten in the Morning

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] This is not the minister of Gamston who had baptized Dan Taylor, but the son of Joseph Jeffries of Taunton who had changed the views of the Baptist church there. This Joseph the son had in 1756 become pastor of a Baptist church then hiring Pinners' Hall for Sunday afternoon: he will be heard of again in 1772.

[4] The word, be, followed and is cancelled.

[5] College education was now becoming an acute question. The Terrill endowment at Bristol was soon to be overhauled, so that Baptists in England could have a real Divinity Seminary. But the colonists were in advance, both as to time and as to scope of plans; and from this beginning arose Brown University.

[Signatures.[6]]

Jno. Geere
Thomas Sexton
Danl. Dobel
John Brittain
J. Brown
Saml. Benge
Grantham Killingworth
George Gardner
Henry Edwards
Thos. Piety
Wm. Bateman
David Sale
Benjam. Martin
John Brown
Nathl. Palmer
Thos. Turll
W. Turner

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held att the Meeting-house in Horselydown fair street May the 17—1769. [Page 153.] [1769, May 17.] [Horsleydown.]

[Officers.]

Present
Thos.[1] Sexton in the Chair
Daniel Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Moderators
Messengers

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard now Barbican	Daniel Noble	Elder
	Thos. Bell Wm. Bateman	Rep
Horseleydown	Jos. Brown	Elder
	John Muggeridge John Jee	Rep
Park	Wm. Summers	Elder
	Edwd. Raines Geo. Gardener	Rep
Church Lane	John Brittain	Elder
	Henry Collier Wm. Franklin	Rep
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobel	Elder
	Charles Titford	Rep
Sevenoakes	Saml. Benge	a Letter
	Davd. Searls John Colgate Richd. Burgis	Rep
Headcorn	John Boorman	Elder
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Elder
Ditcherling	Phillip Dobel	Rep a Letter
Warbleton or Rather Waldren	Heny. Edwards	Elder
*Turnershill or Horley	Nath. Palmer	Elder
	Robt. Botley	Rep

[Page 154.]

---

[6] In one column.

[1] Originally written, Robert.

Canterbury	Thos. Brown Wm. Geadsby } Rep	a Letter
Tunbridge Wells	Jos. Haynes Rep	
Webstone	Wm. Agate Rep	
Coggeshall	Robt. French Rep	
Halstead	David Wilkin Elder Matt. Hume Rep	
Castle Headingham	Chas. Payman Rep	
Norwich	Grantm. Killingworth Rep	
Barkhamstead	Thos. Sexton Mess.	
Northamptonshire Association	James Young Elder Jno. Yeomans Rep	
Branford	John Barret Rep	
Chatham	Saml. Neal Elder	a Case
Isle of Thanet	Thos. Piety Rep	a Case
Newport Isle Wight	John Sturch Elder	

1. [Messengers expenses.] The Case from Chatham relating to Contributions for the Messengers Expence

It is the opinion of this Assembly that all those Churches who have or shall send for a Messenger to do them Service Ought to pay their Expence & to satisfy them for their trouble and absence from their family because as the Apostle says no man goes a Warfare at his own Charges

[Minister to keep school at Ramsgate.] The Case from Ramsgate where a Minister capable of teaching a School is desired any of our Churches that may know of one so qualified are desired to write to Mr. Thos. Piety at Hythe in Kent.

[Bessels Green division.] The Letter from Bessell green being Read and also the Letter from the party that Divided from them after much Debate we are of opinion that it would be most for the peace and good of the cause of our blessed Lord & his Church if [Page 155.] our Brother Stanger would *Voluntarily[2] withdraw himself[3] as it may in the end be more for the peace and Comfort of his own mind rather than to stay and uphold Divisions and[3] contentions which wee do not see Likely to be otherwise Put an end to[4]

---

[2] The word, to, followed and is cancelled.

[3] The word, and, followed and is cancelled.

[4] The history of Bessels Green is not monotonous. There had been one disruption already adverted to in the minutes; in 1747–8 several had been dismissed to form a new church. Now in 1766 a young stocking-weaver named John Stanger came as assistant to Samuel Benge, opening a school to support himself. Stanger belonged to a Northants family known well at Harringworth, Morcott, Slapton and Holcott, all strongly evangelical. His appearance

Agreed that this Assembly be adjourned to the wednesday in Whitsun week 1770 at our Brother Brown meeting-house in Horsleydown that Brother John Sturch do Preach a Sermon at the opening at that Assembly and default of him Brother Dan. Noble that this Book be kept by Brother Brown.

[Signatures.[5]]

Thomas Sexton
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Saml. Benge
Jos. Brown
John Sturch
Thos. Piety
Danl. Noble
John Boorman
Henry Edwards
Joseph Hains
Nathl. Palmer
Cha. Titford
David Sale
Jno. Colgate
Richd. Burgis
Robt. Botley
Saml. Neale
William Agate
Philip Dobel
Grantm. Killingworth

[Page 156.] [1770, June 6.] [Horsleydown.]

*The Proceedings of the General[1] Assembly held June 6th 1770 at the Meeting House in Horsley-down fair Street, after seeking divine Assistance by Prayer,

[Officers.]

Mr. Piety, Mr. Ashdown, were chosen Moderators, & Mr. Noble Chairman

& present[2]

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard	Danl. Noble	Elder
	Thos. Bell & Jos. Collier,	Representatives
Horsley-down	J. Brown	Elder
	Wilm. & John Brent	Representatives

---

crystallized the two parties, and in 1767 Messengers Evershed and Dobel were invoked to allay the strife. The attempt was vain; on the contrary, all Kent and Sussex were obliged to face the issue, while the Assembly now advised his retirement. He was however backed by Brittain of Church lane, another Midland man, as also by Summers of the Park. They came and formed Stanger's friends into a new church during September, while preparations were made for a new meeting-house and manse. The matter had now assumed serious dimensions, and next year led to a similar disruption in the whole Assembly, the plans for which were matured at Lincoln in Michaelmas.

[5] All but three are in one column.

[1] Interlined.

[2] Whether these were all really present is not quite clear. The historians of the New Connexion say that Thompson of Boston, Poole of Fleet, Summers of the Park, Stanger of Bessels Green, Taylor of Wadsworth, and the men marked as present here, met this same day at Church Lane and sent a deputation to announce their secession. Apparently the deputation contained three Elders, Brittain of Church Lane, Wilkins of Halstead, and Knott of Eythorn, with other representatives. None of the men here marked signed these minutes.

Church - Lane	John Brittain[2]	Elder
	Charles Williams & Benjn. Lewis	Representatives
	A Case	
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobel	Elder
	Edward Mockford & Benjn. Dobel	Representatives
Seven - Oaks	David Sale	
	John Egleton & John Colgate	Representatives
Head - Corn	John Boorman	Elder
	Willm. Boorman & Jonathan Clark	Representatives
Horsham	Wilm. Evershead	Elder
	Richd. Evershead	Representative
Ditcherly	James Walden & John Brown	Representatives
Warbleton or Waldon	Henry Edwards	Elder
	John Edwards	Representatives
Turners - Hill	Thos. Turrell & Nath. Palmer	Elders
	John Constable & Robert Botley	Representatives
Canterbury	Daniel Colegate	
	Thos. Oldfield & Danl. Kingsford	Rep.
Tunbridge Wells	Josh. Haynes	Representative
Webston	John Geere	Elder
	John Pearsly, Thos. Pearsly	Representatives
Cogeshall	Rob. French[2]	Representative
Halstead	David Wilkins[2]	Elder
[Page 157.] *Castle Headingham	Charles Parman[2]	Representative
Norwich	A Letter	
Barkhamstead	Thos. Sexton	Messenger
Brentford	John Barrat	Representative
Chatham	Saml. Neal	Elder
Isle of Thanet	Thos. Piety	Representative
Hythe	John Geere	
	Danl. Brown & James Horsman	Representatives
Athorn	John Knott[2]	Elder
	Thos. Harvey Vincent Ladd	Representatives
Deal	James Fenn[2]	Representatives
Stelling	Robt. Gregs	Representatives
Portsmouth	Mr. Austin	Elder

[Secession of several churches.]

The Case deliver'd by Mr. John Brittain &[3] signed by others,[4] was read & We are very sorry that any of our Bretheren in Union with us in this Assembly establishd on the principles of general Redemption & on Hebrews 6. 1—2 should make any particular Sentements & Interpretations of Scripture a Plea for their Seperation from us[5]—We heartily wish for Union & Harmony & while we express our Determination not to make a Difference of private Opinion a Breach of brotherly love & Affection we recommend the Complainants to a more deliberate Consideration of their present Proposal & future Conduct, leaving them entirely at Liberty to judge and act for themselves[6]

Agreed further that this Assembly meet on Wednesday in Whitsun Week 1771 at the Meeting House[1] in fair Street Horsley Down, and that Mr. Sturch[7] do preach a Sermon & on Default that Mr. Ashdown be his second

[Signatures.]

Js. Brown
D. Noble
Jno. Geere
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed

Jno. Pisely
Thos. Pisely
Robt. Botley
Jno. Edwards
Wm. Kingsford

---

[3] The words, others signd, followed and were cancelled.

[4] John Brittain is regarded as head of the seceders. He was now sixty years old, had been known at the Assembly for fifteen years, and was presiding over a church of about 200 members, one of the oldest in the Assembly Summers had been a member at his church till two years ago, and naturally followed his lead. The Lincolnshire men could be left to Boyce, who really exerted himself to heal the breach. Young Stanger and young Taylor had not impressed themselves on the Assembly.

[5] This was the old plea of 1696 and 1707. Two secessions had been remedied, and it seemed likely that a third might be. The new factor of a vigorous evangelistic group in Leicestershire, and a vigorous leader in Yorkshire, soon to come to London, belied the teachings of the past. It may be remembered, as Methodist influence was responsible for this rupture, that the Methodist Conference of this year witnessed a rupture between the Calvinists and the Arminians, never healed.

[6] This liberty was acted upon. Church Lane and Park never rescinded their secession, though they were apathetic in their new relations. Church Lane members evidently attended as spectators for some years, till a shade of irritation appears in the minutes. Park was soon wrecked by Summers seceding to the Calvinists. White's Alley was slumberous, holding only one meeting a week for worship, on Sunday afternoon, and recording few church meetings after 1745, none after 1761 till its pastor died in 1797. The Assembly therefore had only two effective churches left in London.

[7] The words, and on failure, follow and are cancelled.

Jos. Collyer
Daniel Brown
Saml. Neale
[Page 158.] *John Iggelsden
Joseph Hains
Thos. Turll
Nathl. Palmer
Thos. Piety
Jonathan Clark
William Boorman
Richd. Evershed

Thos. Oldfield
John Constable
Tho. Bell
John Boorman
Henry Edwards
John Geere
David Sale
Jno. Colgate
Ben. Dobel
Danl. Colgate
James Hosmer

[Page 159.] [1771, May 23.] [Horsleydown.] *The Proceedings of the general Assembly held May 23 1771 at the Meeting House in fair Street Horsley down after chusing the following Persons viz

[Officers.]
Mr. Sturch Chairman &
Mr. Evershead } Moderators
Mr. Geere }

The Service was introduced by Prayer the following Elders & Representatives being present

[Members present.]

Glasshouse Yard	Danl. Noble Elder Thos. Bell representative
Horsley Down	J. Brown Elder Wm. & John Brent Representatives
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobel Elder Thos. Ranger & Charles Titford Representatives Letter
Seven Oaks	David Sale Representative Letter
Head Corn	John Boorman Elder John Austin Representative
Horsham	Wilm. Evershead Elder Wilm. Turner Representative
Ditcherly	Philip Dobel & Thos. Agate Representatives
Warbleton	Henry Edwards Elder
Turners Hill	Thos. Turrell Nath. Palmer Elders
Canterbury	Thos. Oldfield Sampson Kingsford Repr.
Webston	Jon. Geere Elder

Barkhamstead	— Cock Representative[1]
Brentford	John Barrat Rep.[2]
Chatham	John Neal Elder
Isle of Thannet	Thos. Piety Representative
Hythe	James Hosmer Representative
Portsmouth	Mr. Mills
Dover	Mr. — Ashdown Elder
St. Ives	Mr. Biggs Elder[3]
Isle of White	Mr. Sturch Elder
Croydon	Mr. Webb Representative
Hilsley	Mr. Hitchman
Lincolnshire Association	a Letter[4]

[Correspondence.] Several Letters of Christian Salutation were read & approv'd and we rejoice in the Spirit of Love that appears in them, & we desire to Grow more & more therein, & if any Suspicion or Charge may arise we are ever ready to give an Answer in the Spirit of Meekness—

[Ministers' morals.] As to a Charge, by Report, from Brother Boyce at the Request of the Lincolnshire Association, against some Ministers in Connection with this Assembly as countenancing & encouraging Card playing Horseracing & Dancing; We declare no such Encouragement is[5] given *nor the Practice [Page 160.] countenanc'd by any Minister or Ministers amongst us & we authorise Brother Dobel to signify this our Declaration to Brother Boyce

1. [Austin and Boreman Messengers.] Agreed that Brother Daniel Austin & Brother John Boreman on the Recommendation of the Messengers & the United Assosiation of Kent, Sussex & Surrey be constituted and appointed Messengers accordingly

2. [Messengers' Fund.] Agreed that a general Collection to Support the Messengers in their Office be made in all the Churches belonging to this Assembly, & remitted every year at our general Meeting in London, to Mr. Jemmet, whom we have appointed our Treasurer.

---

[1] This was written first, then replaced by Elder, which again was cancelled, and this rewritten.

[2] This name was added later.

[3] This title was added later.

[4] Messenger Boyce had been very busy in Lincolnshire. A letter to him from Messenger Dobel, published in the third number of this Society's *Transactions*, shows the officers alert to reclaim the seceding churches. Fleet was on the verge of returning to the Lincolnshire Association.

[5] Interlined.

3. [Ministerial Education.] A Scheme was propos'd by Brother Ashdown, from the Assosiation at Canterbury for further Improvement of young Persons already engaged in the Ministry, which was defer'd on Account of the Apparent Difficulty of raising a fund for such Purpose.

[Fast Day.] Agreed that out of an affecting Sense of the Decay & Declension of Religion & its Professors amongst us, each Church do keep the second Tuesday in June next as a Day of fasting & Prayer—but if that Day be not convenient to any of our Country Churches, then to keep any other Day at Discretion, as near as possible,

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun Week 1772 at Barbican—Service to begin at half after ten & Mr. Ashdown do preach and on his Default Brother Hosmer, & agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown

[Signatures.]

Jno. Geere
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
J. Brown
James Hosmer
Thos. Piety
Wm. Ashdowne
Peter Webb
John Sturch
Danl. Austen
John Boorman

Thos. Turll
Cha. Titford
David Sale
Danl. Noble
Nathl. Palmer
Henry Edwards
Sampn. Kingsford
Thos. Oldfield

[Page 161.]

*Philip Dobel
Thomas Agate
Caleb Cock
Thos. Ranger

Henry Biggs
Wm. Turner
John Mills[6]

[Page 162.] [1772, June 10.] [Barbican.] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held June 10th, 1772 at the Meeting House in Barbican[1]

[Officers.] Mr. William Evershot was chosen Chairman

Mr. Thos. Geare & Mr. John Boreman Moderators

---

[6] These seven names stand on page 161 in one column, and there was an eighth, effectively obliterated.

[1] The lease of Horsleydown had expired in 1771. The Barbican premises were now occupied by the Glasshouse Yard church.

After seeking divine Assistance by Praper the following Elders and representatives being present

[Members present.]

Whites Alley[2]	Mr. Bulkley	Elder
Glasshouse Yard	Daniel Noble	Elder
	Mr. Bell	Representative
Horseleydown[3]	Joseph Brown	Elder
	John Brent	Representative
Seven Oaks	David Sales	Representatives
	Richard Burgess	
	James Sanders	
Cranbrook[4]	Mr. Danl. Dobel	Elder
Head Corn	John Boorman	Elder[5]
Ditcherling	Philip Dobel	Representative
Waldron	Henry Edwards	Elder
Turners Hill	Nathaniel Palmer	Elder

---

[2] As an offset to the recent secession, White's Alley had come again into fellowship after long absence. In 1736 there had been a momentary appearance, as also in 1705, but the estrangement dated from 1696. On the death of Mulliner in 1739, John Ashworth had been called from Nantwich; on his death in 1742, Charles Bulkley had succeeded, and he was destined after 29 years already to survive till 1797. The reunion was facilitated by the fact that "White's Alley" church had hired this very Barbican meeting-house for the part of Sunday since 1745. Yet it may well be observed that no one except Bulkley attended, and that his attendance caused no comment or minute—indeed even this very entry was squeezed in afterwards.

[3] This church was meeting on alternate Sunday afternoons in Pinners' Hall off Old Broad Street. This building was leased from the Pinners' Company by an open-membership Calvinistic church, which had had at least two Baptists as pastors, George Fownes and James Foster, while in its membership were such famous Particular Baptists as the Hollis family, benefactors of Harvard in Massachusetts. But this congregation had sublet the building on Saturday to the Calvinistic Sabbatarian Baptists under Bampfield. And it had sublet the building on Sunday afternoons to a series of congregations. The latest of these, which took possession about 1740, was shepherded by John Weatherley from Taunton, a disciple of Joseph Jeffries senior: it was descended from the great Particular Baptist church of Petty France, and despite the absorption of a secession from White's Alley, was Calvinistic in 1717. But Dr. Kinch from Paul's Alley seems to have weakened this attitude, and Weatherley carried the movement into indifferentism. On his death a General Baptist from Deptford succeeded as pastor, and two more General Baptists soon appeared, Isaac Kimber from Nantwich and Joseph Jeffries junior from Taunton. The latter was now the pastor. The prosperity of the church was such that it now contented itself with a fortnightly meeting, and sub-sub-let the building on alternate Sunday afternoons to the homeless Horsleydown church.

[4] This entry is an addition.

[5] This word has been corrected in pencil to, Messenger. He held both offices.

Canterbury	Thos. Oldfield	Representative
Webstone	John[6] Gear	Messenger
Barkhampstead	Caleb Cox	Representative
Brentford	John Barret	Representative
Hythe	James Hosmer	Rep.
Chatham[4]	Mr. Saml. Neal	
Portsmouth		
Dover		
Isle of White		
St. Ives		
Croydon	Mr. Webb	
Hilsey		
Lincolnshire Association	a Case	
Horsham	Willm. Evershed	Messenger
Norwich	a Letter	
Stelling	Stephen Philpot	Elder
Chichester		
Smardings		

[Page 163.]

[Business arising out of minutes.]

*Brother Dobell informed the Assembly that he had signified to Brother Boyce by Letter as authorised by the last Meeting that neither this Society nor any Minister belonging to it do encourage Card playing &c. as hinted in a Letter from the Lincolnshire Association Brother Boyce dealred that he had read the said Letter to the Lincolnshire Association & that they are satisfied with it.

The Assembly were informed that according to their Approbation at the last Meeting Brother Austin & Brother Boreman have been ordain'd to the office of Messengers.

[Personal Membership.]

Dr. Joseph Jeffries applied to be admitted as a Member of this Assembly, & was approved & admitted.[7]

[Application to abolish subscription to the Articles by dissenting ministers.]

Resolved unanimously that the late Application to Parliament to take off the Subscriptions required of Protestant Dissenting Ministers by the Toleration Act & to obtain relief for Tutors & School Masters & to procure an Exemption from the Penal Laws now inforce was highly proper & expedient.[8]

---

[6] Corrected from, Tho.

[7] This is a new departure. Hitherto only churches or associations were admitted members; now a personal member is admitted. The practice is deliberately recognized and regulated at the present day. The significance of this act at this time is considerable. In the desire to strengthen the Assembly, the old tenets were no longer upheld: the Confession of 1660 is not mentioned, and even the Six Principles are not alluded to now. Jeffries and his father were popularly termed Socinians. But Jeffries had a wider horizon than most of the members, having been a member of the General Body of Dissenting Ministers since 1756, and so concerned in politics as they affected dissenters. This is reflected in the next minutes.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be given to the Committee appointed by the Body of Dissenting Ministers in & about London to make that application for the Care & diligence with which they have conducted it.

Resolved, that they be earnestly desired if farther opportunity offers, to do all in their Power to promote so salutary a Purpose.

Agreed that our Brother Dr. Jeffries be desir'd to communicate the above resolutions to the said Committee.

[Causes of decay.] [Page 164.] An Request of the Church of Cranbrook in Kent to enquire into the Causes of the Decay of Christian Piety & the remedies A Committee was appointed Viz—*Messrs. Boyce, Dobell, Brown, Noble, & Bulkley—to draw up a Letter of Advice to be circulated amongst the different Churches.

[Smarden admitted.] [9]The Assembly[9] agreed to receive the[9] the Church of Smarden as Members of this Assembly—

[South Carolina.] Several Letters of Salutation were receiv'd from different Churches—in particular one from Norwich requestg. Infommation of a suitable Person to settle at Charles Town, South Carolina, as a Minister—It was recommended to the Churches to consider of a proper Person for such Purpose & to give Information to Mr. Lowdell Queen Street in the Park, London, or to Mr. Killingworth at Norwich.

[Catechism.] A short Catechism being receiv'd from Mr. Sturch it was refer'd to the revisal of Brother Danl. Noble & Brother Joseph Brown against the next Assembly

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitson Week 1773[10]—Service to begin at half an hour past ten—Brother Ashdown to preach & on his non[11]-attendance Mr. Bulkley[12] or on his failure Dr. Jeffries—

---

[8] This application had arisen from a Unitarian movement within the Church of England to abolish subscription to the XXXIX. articles. In the course of its defeat, hints were thrown out that dissenters might be relieved from the obligation to subscribe. A bill was accordingly drafted, but rejected by the Lords. In the agitation that followed, three Baptist champions were Dr. Samuel Stennett of Wild Street, Robert Robinson of Cambridge, and Joshua Toulmin of Taunton. The bill was passed into law in 1779.

[9] These words are deleted in pencil.

[10] Originally written, 1772.

[11] Interlined.

[12] This was an after-thought: the original entry was, Dr. Joseph Jeffries.

Agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care of Joseph Brown.

[Signatures.]

Wm. Evershed
Jno. Geere
Danl. Dobel
John Boorman
Danl. Austen
Saml. Neale
Henry Edwards
Thos. Piety
Danl. Noble
C. Bulkley

Joseph Jeffries
James Hosmer
Ben Dobel
Philip Dobel
James Sanders
Thos. Oldfield
Stepn. Philpot
David Sale
Tho. Bell
J. Brown

[Page 165.]
[1773, June 2.]
[Barbican.]

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly, held June 2d 1773, at the Meeting House in Barbican, London.

After Seeking divine Assistance by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Bror. Ashdown

[Officers.]

Mr. Boyce was Chose Chairman
& Mr. Sexton & Mr. Geare Moderators

[Members present.]

the following Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present.
Messengers.[1] Brother Boyce, Sexton, Geere, Evershed & Boorman.

Churches	Elders	Representatives
White's Alley	Messrs. Bulkley	
Glasshouse Yard	Noble	Messrs. Bell & Dendy
Horslydown	Brown	Brent & Brent
Seven. Oaks	Merral	Saunders & Burgess
Cranbrook		Titford
Head Corn	Boorman	
Ditcherling		Dancy
Waldron	Edwards	Burgess
Turners Hill	Palmer & Turl	
Webston	Geere	
Berkhampstead	Sexton & Cox	
Hythe	Hosmer	
Chatham	Neale	
Portsmouth	Mills	
Dover	Ashdowne	

---

[1] This entry was added.

Lincolnshire Association	Boyce	
Horsham	Evershot	Agate
Smarding	Seaton	
Tunbridge Wells		Haines

The Minutes of the [2]Proceedings of the last Assembly [Business arising out of minutes.] were read & confirm'd,

The Committee appointed[2] to enquire into the Causes of the Decay of Christian Piety &c. reported that they had prepared Hints, & made Progress in drawing up a Letter to be circulated amongst the Churches but, considering the Importance of such Service, crave further Time to prosecute[3] their Design, if the Assembly chuse to continue them as a Committee.

*Dr. Jeffries moved the Continuance of the Committee & [Page 166.] was seconded by Mr. Ashdowne & the Question being put, was carried & the Committee were further requested to finish[4] such Letter & circulate it amongst the Churches, as soon as Possible.

Mr. Lowdell reported that Mr. Phil. Dobel was gone to [South Carolina.] Charles Town South Carolina[5]

The Catechism from Mr. Sturch refer'd to the Perusal [Catechism.] of D. Noble & J. Brown was read[6] a Motion was made by Mr. Ashdown & seconded by Dr. Jeffries that[7] this Catechism[8] be publishd at the Request of the Assembly it passed in the Affirmative.

Several Letters of Salutation were recieved expressing [Letters.] their good Wishes and desiring[9] some Method to be taken for the Promotion of Religion we concur with their Request, & refer them, as an Answer, to our Appointment of a Committee as above to dispatch a circulating Letter amongst the Churches as soon as possible.

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] The word, such, follows and is cancelled.

[4] The word, their, follows and is cancelled.

[5] The quarrel of the colonists in America was only with the king; the dissenters sided with the Americans.

[6] The original conclusion of the minute from this point was:—and it was moved by Dr. Jeffries and D. Noble whether this Catechism should be publish'd as the Catechism of the Assembly it passed in the Negative. These words were cancelled and replaced as in the text.

[7] This replaces an original, whether.

[8] The word, shall, follows and is cancelled.

[9] The words, & desiring, follow and are cancelled.

The Committee for enquiring into the Causes &c. requested[10] the Assistance of the[11] several Churches belonging to the Assembly[12] by sending their Sentiments in a Letter, (pos pd.) within this Month to Mr. Noble, Lemon Street, Goodmans fields, London or to J. Brown, Fair Street, Horsley down, Southwark.

[Messengers' Fund.] A Motion was made by J. Brown & seconded by Mr. Ashdown that[13] the Article[14] in the Year 1771, ([15] viz that a general Collection to support the Messengers in this office be made in all their Churches belonging to this Assembly & remitted every Year at our general Meeting in London to Mr. Jemmit, whom we have appoind. our Treasurer) be enter'd into these Minutes as an Admoniticon to the several Churches who have been deficient in taking Notice of such prior Agreement.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet [2]at Barbican[2] on Wednesday in Whitsun Week 1774 Service to begin at half past ten & that Mr. Bulkley do preach & on his Default Dr. Jeffries

[Page 167.] *Agreed that this Book be deposited in the[16] care of Brother J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Gilbert Boyce
Jno. Geere
Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Wm. Ashdowne
D. Noble
S. Neale
J. Brown
J. Seaton

Edd. Merrall[17]
Richd. Burgeis
James Sanders
Joseph Haines
John Agate
John Mills
Tho. Bell
Wm. Brent
Nathl. Palmer

Thos. Turll
Henry Edwards
Josiah Dancy
James Hosmer
Cha. Titford

[Page 168.] [1774, May 25.] [Barbican.] *The Proceedings of the general Assembly held May 25th 1774, at the Meeting House in Barbican, London.

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Charles Bulkley

---

[10] The words, the Assembly, follow and are cancelled.

[11] The word, different, follows and is cancelled.

[12] The words, to assist them, follow and are cancelled.

[13] The words, a General, follow and are cancelled.

[14] The words, the 3d, follow and are cancelled.

[15] The word, respecting, follows and is cancelled.

[16] The words, Hands of, follow and are cancelled.

[17] These names are in the first column of the original.

Bror. Wm. Ashdown was chose Chairman [Officers.]
Bro. Danl. Dobel & Wm. Evershed Moderators

The following Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present [Members present.]
Messengers[1] Bror. Dobel, Evershed & Boorman

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Chas Bulkley	
Horsley down	Jos. Brown	Thos. Elliot & John Jee
Glasshouse yard	Danl. Noble	Step. Dendy & Thos Bell
Seven Oaks		James Saunders & John Colgate
Cranbrook	Danl. Dobel	Richd. Drowley
Ditcherly		Peter Brown
Warbleton	Henry Edwards	
Turners Hill	Nath. Palmer & Thos. Turl	
Webston		Thos. Pisely
Berkhamsted		Caleb Cock
Hythe		James Hosmer
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Dover		Wm. Ashdowne
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Richd. Evershed
Smarthen	Joseph Seaton	
Brentford		Barrett
Canterbury	a Letter	
Chichester[1]		

The Minutes of the [2]Proceedings of the[2] last Assembly were read & confirmd

Reported, by the Committee appointed,[2] to inquire into the Causes of the Decay &c. that the Letter required[2] was drawn up & in part circulated amongst ye Churches & that any other Churches may be supplied at the present Assembly or by applying to J. Brown fair Street Horsly down Southwark. [Circular letter.]

Agreed that the Collection to support the Messengers in their Office be continued in all the Churches belonging to this Assembly &[3] paid in *every Year at the general Meeting in London, to Mr. Jemmett & to incourage such [Messengers fund.] [Page 169.]

---

[1] This line was added.

[2] Interlined.

[3] The word, remitted, follows and is cancelled.

Collection the Messengers are required, at the same time, to bring an Account[4] of their Expence & that the Accounts may be audited & settled at every Assembly & inserted in the Proceedings.

[Audit.]

Likewise agreed that the Messengers Expences in attending the Assembly be defrayed out of the[5] aforesaid Collections

[Visitation.]

[6]Agreed that the Messengers be requested, in their several Districts to visit the Churches of the general baptist Denomination, admonishing such who have [7]omitted sending[7] Representatives to the Assembly to renew their Connection; & that those who do send Representatives be intreated to continue[8] so doing that by the united efforts & zeal of the Churches in general Religion may be revived & inspirited more & more amongst us

[Josiah Thompson's enquiries.]

A Letter was read, from the Revd. Mr. J. Thompson[9] to the Assembly of Messengers[2] Elders & representatives &c.[2] requesting intelligence as to the following particulars,

I When their Churches first embodied together & the Circumstances preceding & attending their so doing

II The Succession of their Pastors, the time when the commenced that Relation, when they dyed or removed, & an Account of their Publications

III. The remarkable Providences or Transactions among them if any such have happened.

IV. The Present State with respect to the flourishing[10] or decaying[10] of their Assemblies comparitively with their preceeding State

Orderd that the Request be inserted in the Proceedings & that the several Churches be recommended to send what Intelligence they can obtain[2] to Dr. Jeffries, Mr. Noble, or J. Brown.

---

[4] The words, every year, follow and are cancelled.

[5] The words, public Stock, follow and are cancelled.

[6] The word, Further, precedes and is cancelled.

[7] Replacing, not sent.

[8] The word, them, follows and is cancelled.

[9] This is not W. Thompson of Boston, but a rich Particular Baptist minister of London, who in 1761 had resigned the pastorate of Unicorn Yard, the church of Stinton and Crosby. Maintaining their historical tradition, he was collecting materials, which are now deposited at Dr. Williams' Library; the General Baptist facts he gathered have been utilized in the Introduction to this book.

[10] Underlined.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet at Barbican on Wednesday Whitsun Week 1775. Service to begin at[11] halfpast 10 & that Dr. Jeffries do preach and on his Default Mr. Cock

Agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care[12] of Bror Brown

James Hosmer [Signatures.]
Henry Edwards
Saml. Neale
Caleb Cock
Nathl. Palmer
*Thos. Pisely
Richard Drowly
Richd. Evershed
Peter Browne
James Sanders

Wm. Ashdowne
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Danl. Noble
Jno. Colgate[13] [Page 170.]
John Jee
Tho. Bell
Thos. Turll
J. Brown

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly, held at the Meeting house in Barbican, London June[1] 7th 1775 [Page 171.] [1775, June 7.] [Barbican.]

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Mr.—Toulmin,[2]

Brother Sturch was Chose Chairman [Officers.]
Brother Daniel Dobel & Wm. Evershed Moderators

The following Messengers[3] Elders and Representatives of the several Churches being Present [Members present.]
Messengers Brothers Doble, Evershed & Boorman

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley	
Horsley down	J. Brown	Mr. John Brent & John Jee
Glasshouse Yard	Danl. Noble	Messrs. Dendy & Bell

---

[11] Originally, half past ten: then, eleven o'clock: then, half past 10.

[12] Originally, Hands.

[13] All one column on page 170 in the original.

[1] Originally, May.

[2] Joshua Toulmin, once a Presbyterian, had become a Baptist about 1764; in 1765 he became pastor of the former Calvinistic Baptist church at Taunton, and in 1769 had been created M.A. by the Rhode Island college. This is a second case of friendship between ex-Calvinists and the Assembly, both connected with Taunton. We shall presently find Job David bringing in Newton Nottage.

[3] Interlined.

Seven Oaks		David Sale & John Colgate
Cranbrook	Danl. Doble	Charles Titford
Ditcherly		James Walder
Warbledon	Henry Edwards	Richd. Sanders & John Burgess
Turners Hill	Nathl. Palmer & Thos. Turl	
Berkhamstead		Caleb Cock[4]
Hythe		James Hosmer
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Richd. Evershed
Head Corn & Smarthen	John Boorman	Messenger
Canterbury		Sampson Kingsford
Tunbridge Wells		Jos. Haines
Brentford		Mr. Swinden
Newport	Mr. Sturch	
Portsmouth		Wm. Price
Burnham		Mr. Ham. Stacey & Mr. Jagger
Chichester		

[Page 172.] 1. *The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & Confirmed

2. [Burnham.] The Church at Burnham in Essex, on their Request, was admitted to Union with this Assembly[5]

3. [Collections.] The Collections of several Churches were deliverd in, according to an Article agreed to at the last general Assembly, Agreed that the said Article be inserted in the Copy of the Proceedings of this Assembly, viz.

[Visitation.] Reported by[6] the Messengers that they have visited the Churches in general & find on the whole, they are in a comfortable State & rather on the Increase: &, at the same time, express their Willingness to do all in their Power, in visiting the Churches, to promote true substantial Piety among them

---

[4] Originally entered in the other column.

[5] This is remarkable in two respects: the church had been in fellowship before, had not formally withdrawn, but was formally admitted: a year's notice was not required. The cause probably dates from 1673, though no Baptist seems to have been licensed then. In 1693 there were nearly 100 members, and by 1712 they had acquired the "Jews Well" public-house, which they licensed for worship. Representatives at the Assembly often appeared between 1697 and 1741, the last being apparently the same Ham Stacey who now attends. He does not seem to have been ordained till 1789, he died that year, and the place was closed. It was presently reopened under other auspices, and did not renew its union with the Assembly.

[6] Originally, that.

On auditing the Accounts [7]of Collections & Disbursments they[7] appear to stand as under [Accounts.]

Ballance of last Year	£18. 6. 10
Received at this Assembly from several Churches	£15. 18. 0
	£34. 4. 10
Paid to Messengers	£14. 8. 8
Ballance in Hand	£19. 16. 2

At the Request of the Kentish Assosiation, moved & carried unanimously that our Brother Noble & Brown do take upon them the Office of Messengers & give their respective Answers at the next Assembly [Messengers.]

Moved by Brother Noble that Mr. Toulmin be requested to print his Sermon preached before this Assembly & carried in the Affirmative [Toulmin's sermon.]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet at Barbican on Wednesday in Whitsun-week, 1776—Service to begin at Half past ten & that Dr. Jeffries do preach & on his Default our Brother Cock.

Agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Page 173.]
[Signatures.]

*John Sturch
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
James Hosmer
Samp. Kingsford
Cha. Titford
Jno. Colgate
David Sale[8]
Nathl. Palmer
Joseph Haines
Henry Edwards
Saml Neale
Danl. Noble
Caleb Cock
Thos. Turll
Tho. Bell[8]
Richard Sanders
James Jagger
H. Stacey
J. Jee
J. Brown

[Page 174.]
[1776, May 29.]
[Barbican.]

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly held at the Meeting house in Barbican May 29th 1776.

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Dr. Jeffries,

---

[7] Originally, it: then, they: then as in text.

[8] All one column in original.

[Officers.]

Brother Ashdowne was chose	Chairman
& Brothers Evershed & Boorman	Moderators

[Members present.] The following Messengers, Elders & Representatives being present
Messengers Doble Evershed & Boorman

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Chas. Bulkley	
Horsley down	J. Brown	John Brent & Ireland
Glasshouse yard	D. Noble	Thos. Bell & Step. Dendy
Seven Oaks		David Sale & James Sanders
Cranbrook	Dnl. Doble	Robt. Pethurst
Ditcherling		
Warldron	Henry Edwards	
Horley[1]	Nath. Palmer & Thos. Turll	
Berkhamstead		John Spriggen
Hythe		
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed Mat. Caffin	John Agate & Jno. Evershed
Headcorn	John Boorman	
Smarthen		
Canterbury		
Tunbridge Wells		
Brentford		John Barratt
Newport		
Portsmouth	John Mills	
Burnham		
Chichester		
Dover		Wm. Ashdowne
Farnham		John Peasly Rep.
Burnham		
Lincolnshire Association		a Letter

[Page 175.] *The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed

[Accounts.] The Collections of several Churches for support of the Messengers Office, were deliverd in according to an Article agreed to in the Year 1774 and on auditing the Accounts it appears as follows.

---

[1] Lately known as, Turners Hill.

Cash in hand last Year	19.	16.	2
Collections this Year	11.	13.	0
Disbursments	15.	0.	1
Balance in hand	16.	9.	1

Agreed that the general Report of the Messengers, as to the State of the Churches, be continued as usual [Visitation.]

Brother Noble & Brother Brown have declined their Acceptance of the Office of Messengers, as their Engagements will not admit that Attendance which they think necessary to so important an Office.[2] [Nolumus episcopari.]

Agreed, that this Assembly do send an annual Account of their Proceedings to the Lincolnshire Assosiation, hoping their Brethren there will support their Connection with our Assembly by similar Intelligence[3] [Overtures to Lincoln.]

Agreed that a Circular Letter be drawn up by a Committee appointed for that Purpose & printed with these Proceedings & distributed amongst the Churches. [Circular Letter, printing.]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet at Barbican on Wednesday in Whitsun-week 1777—Service to begin at half past Ten & that Brother Cox do preach and on his Default Brother Evershed and on his Default Brother Mills.

Agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care of Brother Brown

*Wm. Ashdowne
Danl. Dobel
Wm. Evershed
Nathl. Palmer[4]
John Evershed
James Sanders
Thos. Turll[4]
Willm. Ireland
Isa. Jemmett

[Page 176.]

---

[2] There had been a tendency to accept the title of Messenger without really looking after the churches. Dobel and Boyce had nobly revived the older conception, and though they were not founding many new churches, were holding together some, and trying to reclaim others. One result is that two London brethren leave the way open for others to take up this work.

[3] The Lincolnshire Association now included Coningsby, Fleet, Gosberton, Killingholm, Knipton, Maltby, Monksthorp, Spalding and Tetney. This year the old Leicestershire Association met for the last time, including Earl Shilton, Leicester, Mountsorrel, Smeeton and Wymeswould. The Assembly of the New Connexion had in 1771 divided into two Associations, of which the southern had speedily died. But its northern Association, of seven churches, met this year at Boston, the solitary church which had permanently passed over from the Assembly to the New Connexion. It was obvious that the Lincolnshire Association and Boyce should have the moral support of the Assembly.

[4] All one column in the original.

John Boorman
Danl. Noble
Henry Edwards
John Pisely
David Sale
Thos. Bell
John Sprigen
Saml. Neale
Robt. Pethurst
J. Brown

[Page 177.] [1777, May 21.] [Barbican.] *The Proceedings of the general Assembly, held at the Baptist Meeting House, in Barbican, London, on Wednesday, the 21st of May, 1777.

After seeking divine Assistance and Direction by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Evershed

[Officers.] Brother Boorman was chose Chairman
& Brothers Evershed & Palmer Moderators

[Members present.] The following Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present

Messengers Brothers Evershed & Boorman

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley	
Horsly-down	Joseph Brown	John Brent & John Jee
Glasshouse yard	Daniel Noble	Thos. Bell & Stepn. Dendy
Seven Oaks	Edwd. Merrall	Davd. Sale & John Colgate
Cranbrook		Charles Titford
Ditcherling		Walder
Warldron	Henry Edwards	John Burgess
Horley	Nath. Palmer & Thos Turll	
Berkhamstead		Joseph Pyall
Hythe		
Chatham	Saml. Neal	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed & Mathw. Caffin	John Agate & John Dendy
Headcorn	John Boorman	Robert Pyall
Canterbury		Willm. & Sampson Kingsford
Tunbridge Wells		
Brentford		John Barratt
Newport		
Portsmouth		
Chichester		

Dover	
Farnham	
Burnham	
Kentish Association	a Letter
From Brother Boyce	a Letter

*The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed [Page 178.]

The Collections of several Churches for Support of the Messengers Office were deliverd in, according to an Article agreed to in the Year 1774 and, on auditing the Accounts they appear as follows. [Accounts.]

Balance last Year	16. 9. 1
Receved by Collections this Year	14. 14. 6
Paid to Messengers	17. 10. 10
Ballance in Hand	13. 12. 9

On a Motion by Letter from Horsham, to this Assembly, for keeping a Day of fasting & Prayer to implore the divine Being to bless us with the Return of Peace to forgive us our manifold offences & to revive Religion amongst us. It is recommended by this Assembly to set apart Tuesday the 17th of June 1777 for that Purpose But, if that Day be not convenient to any of our Country Churches, then to keep any other Day, at Discretion, as near as possible. [Fast Day.]

On the Reception of a Letter from Brother Boyce to know the Opinion of this Assembly as to the Reunion of those Members who seperated from us in the Year 1770. We declare, we are willing to receive our Brethren in Love on the[1] Principles of general Redemption & holding the Truths, as recorded in Heb. 6. 1—2. But as we have always left them [2]in other respects to their own[2] Liberty we cant think of giving up our Liberty by signing any other Articles, to establish such Union than those on which the Assembly hath for many Years stood And if they will unite on that foundation we should think it a[3] joyfull Day & look on it as a presage of lasting Union.[4] [Reunion only on Six Principles and General Redemption.]

---

[1] The word, general, follows and is cancelled.

[2] Replacing, at.

[3] The word, presage, follows and is cancelled.

[4] Boyce was untiring in his efforts for reunion. The churches in the south which had seceded had ceased meeting; the new church at Bessels Green—to be distinguished from the old one, often called here Sevenoaks—was so

[Progress.] Reported by the Messengers that the Churches are rather increasing in the Number of their Members.

[Lincolnshire.] Agreed further that the Account of the Proceedings be sent to the Lincolnshire Association.

Reported by the Committee That they have distributed the Letter which they were appointed to draw up amongst the Churches

[A new London building wanted] Reported by Mr. Noble that the Lease of Barbican Meeting house will expire at Michaelmas next. And at the same time it was requested by our Friends in London that our Country Brethren do assist in contributing to erect a Place of Meeting for the[5] several Churches of the general Baptists & give notice by Midsummer of the separate sums they can raise for that Purpose to Mr. Jemmett No 35 Queen Street Southwark.[6]

[Page 179.] * Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsunweek 1778 at Mill yard, Goodmans Fields Service to begin at half past ten & that Brother Cock do preach, on his Default, Brother Mills and on his failure Brother Joseph Seaton.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited under the Care of Brother Brown.

---

uncertain in its doctrines as to make overtures to the Kent and Sussex Particular Baptist Association; the two London churches were isolated, and the only apparent danger was in the Midlands. The New Connexion had drawn up six articles, some of which were expressly meant to negative views current in the Assembly. These were evidently tendered now as a basis of union, and were at once refused. It is curious that the Leicestershire Conference of the New Connexion had in 1775 disapproved of Articles being used as a test for membership; apparently Taylor was responsible for such a use. Meanwhile the Maltby church had been divided by the new movement, Gamston was inclining that way, Ashford in Derbyshire was imploring money help from the Leicestershire Conference in numerous letters, and Poole was begging help thence for his new meeting-house at Long Sutton. The long negotiations were near culminating, and Thompson of Boston was bringing the Leicestershire preachers to Gosberton for a conference on May 27 and 28 with a deputation from the Lincolnshire Association. But the representatives of the New Connexion declined to admit that Messengers and Laying on of hands were of divine obligation, and refused to join the Assembly.

[5] The words, general Baptist, follow and are cancelled.

[6] The London weakness is evident from this decision. Three churches occupied two buildings, shared by other churches; and all three were about to be evicted, so that they contemplate borrowing from their Sabbatarian friends at Mill Yard, who were ministered to by Noble of Glass-house Yard.

[Signatures.]

Thos. Turll[7]
James Walder
John Boorman
Wm. Evershed
J. Brown
D. Noble
Isa. Jemmett
Nathl. Palmer
Sampn. Kingsford
Edward Merrall
Henry Edwards
Matthew Caffin
David Sale
Jno. Colgate
Cha. Titford
Saml. Neale
Tho. Bell
John Jee
Jas. Pyall
John Dendy
John Agate
Robt. Pyall

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting-house in Barbican London on Wednesday the 10th of June 1778. [Page 180.] [1778, June 10.] [Barbican.]

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer and hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Mills

Brother Evershed [1]was chose[1] Chairman [Officers.]

& Brothers Boorman & Edwards Moderators

The following Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several churches being present

Messengers—Brothers Evershed & Boorman [Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Charls. Bulkley	
Horsly-down	Josh. Brown	John Brent & John Jee
Glasshouse yard	Danl. Noble	Thos. Bell & Step. Dendy
Seven-Oaks		David Sale & John Colgate
Cranbrook		Charles Titford
Ditchling		James Walder
Warldron	Henry Edwards	
Horley	Nath. Palmer	
Berkhamstead		Josph. Pyall
Hythe		
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Agate
Head-corn	John Boorman	John Austin
Canterbury	a Letter	
Tunbridge Wells		

---

[7] All but the first two names form one column in the original.

[1] Added.

Brentford		Frans. Swinden & John Barratt
Newport		
Portsmouth	John Mills	
Smarden	Josph. Seaton	
Chichester		
Dover		
Farnham		Thos. Piseley
Burnham		

[Page 181.] *The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirm'd

[Accounts.] The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office were deliverd in from the following Churches as under

	£		
Horsly-down	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard	1.	1.	0
Seven Oaks	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	1.	1.	0
Ditchling	1.	1.	0
Berkhampstead	1.	1.	0
Horsham[2]	1.	11.	6
Headcorn	1.	1.	0
Portsmouth	1.	1.	0
Farnham	0.	8.	0
Chichester[2]	2.	0.	0
	11.	17.	0
In hand last year	13.	12.	9
Received this year	11.	17.	0
	25.	9.	9
In hand	12.	17.	10
Paid to Mr. Dobel	2.	6.	11
Mr. Boorman	7.	5.	0
Mr. Evershed	3.	0.	0
	12.	11.	11

[Visitation.] Reported by the Messengers, that the Churches are rather increasing in the Number of their Members.

---

[2] The Sussex churches appear the most generous. The Messengers did their work economically.

[Accounts to be in detail.]

At the Request of the Church at Ditchling & to give satisfaction to our Bretheren it is agreed the Collection of each Church sent in for the Support of the Messengers Office, be inserted in the Minutes[3] of the Proceedings

[Care of the young.]

On a Letter received from Brother Dobel, recommending some Method to be advised by the Assembly for informing young Minds & establishing &[1] preserving them[4] from a Departure from the Faith of Xt. It is earnestly requested by the said Assembly that the Elders of the separate Churches do appoint & fix proper times & Seasons, as may be most convenient to themselves, to open and explain the Scriptures by an agreeable friendly Conference, & [1]to engage in[1] earnest Prayer that a Stop may be put to growing Profaness & impiety, that[1] Religion might more flourish amongst us, & the justly deserved Judgments of God averted

[Barbican to be leased.]

Reported by the Committee for providing a Meeting-house for the use of the Churches in London & the annual Assembly, *that they have agreed for a permanent Lease [Page 182.] of the present Meeting-house in Barbican,[5] and do hereby gratefully acknowledge the Receipt of the several Subscriptions from their Country Friends.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week 1779 at the Meeting House in Barbican—Service to begin at half past 10 o'Clock & that Brother Joseph Seaton do preach and on his Default Brother James Walder

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of Brother Joseph Brown

[Signatures.]

Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
*Henry Edwards
Nathl. Palmer
Saml. Neale
David Sale
Jno. Colgate

John Mills
John Agate
Cha. Titford [Page 183.]
John Brent
Jno. Austen
Danl. Noble
Jos. Brown

[1779, May 26.] [Barbican.]

The Proceedings of the general Assembly held at the Bapst. Meeting-house, in Barbican London on Wednesday the 26th of May 1779.

---

[3] Originally, Account.

[4] Originally, their minds.

[5] This did not take effect.

After seeking divine Direction by Prayer, and hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Walder

[Officers.] Brother Palmer was chose Chairman
& Brothers Boorman & Evershed Moderators

The following Messengers Elders & Representatives [1]of the several Churches[1] being present—

[Members present.] Messengers—Brothers Boorman & Evershed

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley	
Horsly down	J. Brown	John Brent & John Jee
Glasshouse Yard	D. Noble	
Seven - Oaks		David Sale
Cranbrook		Charles Titford
Ditchling		James Walder
†Warldron		
Horley	Nath. Palmer & Thos. Turl	
Berkhamsted[2]		Joseph Pyall
Hythe		Thos. Piety
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Jno. Brown
Head corn	John Boorman	
†Canterbury		
†Tunbridge Wells		
Brentford		John Barratt
†Newport		
Portsmouth		
†Chichester		
Smarden		W. Broungar
†Dover		
Farnham		John Ellis
Burnham		Ham Stacey
[Page 184.] *Norwich	Henry Finch	

---

[1] Added.

† This may be contemporary. It may be a note showing the Messengers which churches needed visitation, as they sent neither representatives nor subscriptions.

[2] Berkhamsted was now served by Elders Caleb Cock and William Thrussell, assisted by Joseph Pyall from Headcorn. Apparently there was some dissatisfaction with their ministry, or they were not numerous enough for all the preaching places, for the church applied this year to the Leicestershire Conference of the New Connexion for supplies. But nothing further came of this till Thrussell's removal in 1796, except that in 1785 he asked for money help from the same Conference. Whether or when Cock became Elder is not clear; the entries in this book are curious.

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly[3] were read & confirm'd.

The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office [Accounts.] were deliverd in from the several[4] Churches; and on auditing the Accounts, they appear as under—

	£	s.	d.
Horsley Down	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard	1.	1.	0
Cranbrook	0.	10.	6
Ditchling	1.	1.	0
Berkhamsted	1.	1.	0
Horsham	1.	11.	6
Headcorn	1.	1.	0
Portsmouth	1.	1.	0
Farnham	0.	8.	0
Horley	0.	10.	6
Brentford	0.	10.	6
Recivd this Year	9.	17.	0
In hand last year	12.	17.	10
Total	22.	14.	10
Paid Expence to Brothers Boorman & Evershed	10.	11.	10
Ballance in hand	12.	3.	0.

To Brother Evershed £.5. 9. 0
Boorman 4. 12. 10

Reported by the Messengers, that the Churches are [Visitation.] rather on the Increase.

By a Letter from Cranbrook, & the Report of the Repre- [The Young.] sentatives from several other Churches, We have received the agreeable Account of the happy Effects, arising from their having appointed Times & Seasons for explaining the Scriptures, and engaging in Christian Converse, agreeable to the Recommendation of this Assembly. We rejoice in the Report, & hope the same Zeal, in all the Churches, will animate them to engage in such Methods, which may revive & strengthen the general Interest of Religion.

---

[3] Originally, Year.

[4] Originally, following.

[Cessation of subscription to the xxxix. articles.]

A Report having been made by Dr. Jeffries of the Proceedings of the Committee for procuring farther Relief for dissenting Ministers & Schoolmasters; &, that the Act, for that Purpose had now pass'd both Houses of Parliament, & obtain'd the royal Assent.

[Page 185.]

Resolved, that this Assembly, rejoicing at so great extension of religious Liberty, & highly approving the Measures taken by the said Committee; desire that *their Thanks be presented to the said Committee, for the Earnestness & Zeal with which they have persevered in their Application to Parliament.

Resolved that Dr. Jeffries be desired to present the thanks of this Body to the said Committee.

[A freehold site for worship.]

Whereas it was inserted, in the Minutes of the last Assembly, that the Congregations, meeting in this Place, had agreed to renew the Lease of it; Mr. Lowdell now reported, that the Land Lord of the said Place having afterwards[5] refused to comply with the Terms[6] propos'd and agreed on, A piece of Freehold Ground has therefore since been purchased, in Worship Street, near Bishops-gate Street; and its propos'd to build a new Meeting house there as soon as possible: & the said Congregations, likewise with Pleasure, acknowledge the farther assistance received from their Friends in the Country, during the Course of last Year.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsunweek at the Meeting House at Barbican in the Year 1780. Service to begin at half past Ten and that Brother Seaton do preach & on his Default[1] Brother Bolton, & on his Default[1] Bror. Finch.

Agreed, that this Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Hen. Finch
Jos. Pyall
N. Palmer
Jno. Ellis
John Sprigen
H. Stacey

John Harding
Cha. Titford
David Sale
Saml. Neale
John Jee
James Walder
Danl. Noble
J. Brown
John Browne

---

[5] The words, insisted upon some additional, follow and are cancelled.

[6] The words, altogether improper to be complyed with, follow and are cancelled.

*[1]The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting-house, [2]Mill-yard, Goodman's Fields, London,[2] on Wednesday, the 17 of May 1780. [Page 186.] [1780, May 17.] [Mill Yard.]

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer and hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Seaton—

Brother Dobel was chose Chairman [Officers.]
& Brothers Boorman & Evershed Moderators

The following Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present.

[3]Messengers Brothers Dobel, Boorman & Evershed

[Members present.]

[4]Churches	Elders	Representatives
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkly	
Horsley down	J. Brown	John Jee
[3]Glasshouse Yard	D. Noble	
Bessels Green		Richd. Burgess Dd. Sale. let.
Cranbrook	D. Dobel	Charles Titford - Lettr.
Ditchling		James Walder
Warldron[5]		
Horley	Nath. Palmer Ths. Turl	
Berkhamstead		Joseph Pyall
Hythe		
Chatham	Saml. Neale	
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	
Headcorn	John Boorman	
Canterbury		Letter
Tunbridge Wells[5]		
Brentford		John Barratt
Newport[5]		
Portsmouth		
Chichester[5]		
Smarden	Josh. Seaton	

---

[1] The official printed Proceedings are collated with this official MS. record, but the frequent variations in punctuation and spelling are not indicated.

[2] Added. The printed copy omits, Goodman's Fields.

[3] These lines added in the MS.

[4] A fourth column in the printed edition presents the sums contributed, which occur further on in MS.

[5] Omitted in print.

Farnham	John Ellis
[Page 187.] *Burnham[5]	
Norwich[5]	
Lincolnshire Association	Letter

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed

[Accounts.] The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office were deliver'd in from the following Churches and on auditing the Accounts they appear as follows.[6]

	£	s.	d.
Horsly-down			
Glasshouse yard	1.	1.	0
Seven-oaks or Bessels Green	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	0.	10.	6
Ditcherling	1.	1.	0
Horley			
Berkhamsted	1.	1.	0
Hythe	1.	1.	0
Chatham			
Horsham	1.	11.	6
Head-corn	1.	1.	0
Brentford			
Portsmouth	1.	1.	0
Farnham	0.	10.	6
	9.	9.	0
In hand last Yr.	12.	3.	0
	21.	12.	0
Ball. in hand	11.	0.	6

	£	s.	d.
paid to Mr. Boorman	£5.	14.	0
Dobel	3.	1.	0
Evershed	1.	16.	6
	10.	11.	6

Several Letters of Salutation were received & read

[Messengers to be Elders first.] [Page 188.] The opinion of this Assembly as to the Choice of Messengers, in Reference to a Letter received from *Canterbury is, that no Person be ordained a Messenger without being first ordained an Elder, and as to the Reproof[7] some of the Bretheren have gave to the general Assembly we take it in good part, &, while they declare their own growth, zeal & Prosperity, wish it had influenced them to send a Representative to inspirit the same zeal amongst us.

---

[6] Printed edition says properly, as above.

[Gambling denounced.]

As to the Charge of Card-playing & Dancing, we declare that we cannot think we have a right to examine minutely into[8] the private Practice of all with whom we are connected; but, as we have done before, we again give our Opinion that gaming is evil; and as such bear our Testimony against it & know not that any amongst us practise unlawfull Games.

[Visitation.]

Reported by the Messengers that the State of the Churches are decreased in some Places by Death, that there is a Want of Ministers, & that in other Places they are on the Increase and on the whole nearly in the same State as last Year.

[Adjourn to Worship Street.]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week, at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Norton falgate, Bishopgate street, in the Year 1781, that Brother Bolton do preach & on his Default Brother Finch, & on his Default Benj. Dobel.

[9]Agreed, that the Assembly Book[10] be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Danl. Dobel
John Boorman
Wm. Evershed

*Josh. Pyall

N. Palmer
David Sale
Thos. Turll
Danl. Noble
Cha. Titford[11]

[Page 189.]

---

[7] The word, of, follows and is cancelled.

[8] The word, practices, follows and is cancelled.

[9] Before this minute, the printed edition inserts:—

> N.B. It was reported by Dr. Jeffries, that the Rev. Mr. Toulmin had prepared Materials for printing an History of the Baptists, in 1 Vol. 8vo. and, on his requesting the Opinion of the Assembly concerning the Publication thereof, it was voted, nem. con. that such a Work would be very useful, and that they would give it encouragement.

Dr. Jeffries was manifestly present; either as a spectator, or more probably also at a meal when such a vote could be taken informally. Toulmin varied his plan, and appended his materials to his edition of Neal's *History of the Puritans.*

[10] Interlined.

[11] All one column on original page 189. The printed sheet gives no signatures at all.

Saml. Neale
Thos. Barron
Jno. Ellis
John Jee

[1781, June 6.] [Worship Street] The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting house, in Worship Street,[1] near Bishopsgate Street London on Wednesday the 6th of June 1781.

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Bolton

[Officers.] Brother—Bulkley—was chose Chairman

Brothers Evershed & Boorman Moderators.

The following Messengers Elders & Representatives of the Several Churches being present.

[Members present.] Messengers, Brothers Evershed & Boorman

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£		
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsly down	Joseph Brown	John Jee			
		Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse Yard	Danl. Noble	Sepn. Dendy			
		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green		John Colgate			
		David Sale			
Cranbrook		Charles Titford	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		Richd. Burgess			
		Tho. Billinghurst	1.	1.	0
Warldron		Benj. Hollman	0.	10.	6
Horley	Nath. Palmer &				
	Thos. Turll		0.	10.	6
Berkhamstead		Joseph Pyall &			
		John Spriggen	1.	1.	0

---

[1] This building was erected for the joint occupancy of four churches; the three Assembly churches which kept the historic names of White's Alley, Horslydown, Glass-house Yard, and Jeffries' church from Artillery Lane which had been with Brown's church at Pinner's Hall and Bury Street. This last church lost its pastor in two years, and seems to have quietly died or amalgamated at some date after 1792. The building then became the property of the three churches, and so remained even after two of them moved away and left the old Glass-house Yard church in sole occupation. The country churches which had often been helped in their building cases were now rallying well to the help of the London churches. Subscriptions amounted to £1,700 within five years, and the balance of £300 was met by a loan from Ramsgate, where Thomas and Ann Piety had in 1768 given money for the support of the local ministry.

Hythe		John Geere	1. 1. 0
Chatham	Saml. Neale		
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Agate	1. 11. 6
Head-corn	John Boorman	Robert Pyall	
		John Austin	
Canterbury		Wm. Kingsford	
		Letter	1. 11. 6
		Collectd.	11. 11. 0
		Bal. lst. Year	11. 0. 6
		Tot.	22. 11. 6
		Paid this year	14. 19. 11
		Balance in hand	7. 11. 7

Churches	Elders	Representatives
Brentford		John Barrett
Portsmouth		
Smarden		
Farnham		John Kingsford,
		Letter
Lincolnshire Association		Letter

*The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read and confirmed. [Page 190.]

With Respect to the Request of the several Churches for an additional Number of Messengers, we do, from the general Opinion of the Representatives present, nominate Brother Daniel Noble & Benjm. Dobel to the Office of Messengers & request their Acceptance of said Office. [Messengers.]

As to the Letter from Canterbury requesting our Review of a former Letter, we declare again that Gaming is evil & bear our Testimony against it nor do we know of any amongst us in the least chargeable with this Offence.[2] [Gambling.]

(& that Brothers Boorman & Seaton do wait on Bro. Dobel & Dr. Jeffries & Bro. Brown, on Mr. Noble for this Purpose)

We recommend to the Church at Ditchling our Bro. James Walder as a proper Person for their Elder. [Ditchling.]

The Church at Moreton-hamstead Devonshire being in Want of a Pastor have desired by Dr. Jeffries that the Mes- [Moreton Hampstead.]

---

[2] This minute is marked at the side, evidently to indicate that it was written before the previous minute was complete.

sengers Elders &c of the Assembly would enquire and recommend to them a proper person to be their minister.[3]

[Accounts.] The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office were deliverd in from the Churches & on auditing the Accounts appear as above.

Agreed that the Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsunweek at the Meeting house in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street in the Year 1782—that Brother Finch do preach on his Default Brother Benj.[4] Dobel & on his Default Brother Sampson Kingsford

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown

[Signatures.] C. Bulkley

[Page 191.]

*Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Nath. Palmer
Jas. Jeffries
Josh. Pyall
Saml. Neale
Danl. Noble
J. Brown

Cha. Titford[5]
David Sale
John Geere
Jno. Colgate
John Agate
Robt. Pyall
Jno. Austen
Rich. Burgess

Tho. Billinghurst[5]
Benjn. Holman
Wm. Brent
Morgan Evan
Wm. Stephenson
Edwd. Mockford
John Sprigens

LEICESTERSHIRE AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The churches in these counties had been slowly fading away, and seeing that no Messenger helped them they were beginning to look to the New Connexion. This year the Leicester church, which had depended on Richard Green, Elder of Earl Shilton, for occasional visits, applied to the Leicestershire Conference at Melbourne for preaching in the Friar Lane meeting-house. Supplies were sent, and John Deacon, who had studied under Dan Taylor, proved so acceptable that the church reorganized next year and called him as regular preacher. The result was that in 1783 they formally joined the New Connexion: for several years Deacon came from the "Leicester Association" as representative with Dan Taylor, but there are signs from 1793 of "inexplicable difficulties" at Friar Lane, as if Deacon were too old-fashioned for some; and a secession took place with the approval of the Leicestershire Conference. Whatever the precise nature of the trouble, it never led to Friar Lane rejoining the Assembly, or even to its quitting the New Connexion.

The case of North Moulton is equally pathetic. Thomas Stanger, who had attended Assembly in 1761 and 1765, died in 1768. For thirteen years the widow had kept the people together, but now the cause seemed desperate. William Stanger at Morcott was too far away, so one of the family attended the Leicestershire Conference at Hinckley this year, and desired that the church might be received into fellowship; the case was deferred, and the doors had absolutely to be closed after a century. Help came in a few years from quite another quarter, when a cobbler at Hackleton, only 24 years old, was called to the ministry by the Particular Baptist church at Olney—itself an evolution from a General Baptist cause?—and found such opportunities here that in 1786 he was ordained by Ryland of Northampton, Fuller of Kettering, and his own pastor, Sutcliff of Olney. If these were of another school, yet a link with the past was preserved by John Stanger, son of the late pastor, coming from Bessels Green to assist. And though Ryland was so intensely Calvinistic that he openly rebuked the young man for proposing to teach all nations, elect or non-elect, Fuller was of a more genial theology. Fostered by his teaching young William Carey wrote at Moulton in that same year, "An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens, &c." Surely the old traditions of the church created an atmosphere around him, when the ancient Confession declared openly that Christ had commanded the glad tidings of remission of sins to be preached to every creature that they might be saved, and inferred that all men at one time or another were put into such a capacity, as that (through the grace of God) they might be eternally saved. Nevertheless it must be sorrowfully acknowledged that the midland churches which had so sturdily upheld these principles, perhaps from the days of John Smith and the Coventry church of 1624, could find no inducement to abide in the ancient fellowship, but were seeking new associates. When William Stanger died at Morcott in 1790, the fine old family had none to succeed him, and the ancient church made overtures to the Leicestershire Conference.

---

[3] Another ex-Calvinistic church opening communications.

[4] Added. Daniel Dobel died this year, and his son Benjamin was now recommended as Messenger in his stead.

[5] All names but Bulkley's form one column on page 191.

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street London on Wednesday May 22. 1782. [Page 192.] [1782, May 22.] [Worship Street]

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer, & hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Doble, Brother Evershed was chose Chairman and Brothers Boorman & Doble Moderators. The following Messengers Elders & Representatives from the several Churches being present— [Officers.]

Messengers Brothers Evershed & Boorman [Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley		
Horsley down	Joseph Brown	John Brent	
		John Jee	1. 1. 0
Glasshouse yard	Daniel Noble	Stephen Dendy	
		John Treacher	1. 1. 0
Bessels Green		David Sale	0. 10. 6
Cranbrook		Charles Titford	1. 1. 0
		Letter	
Ditcherling		Josiah Dancy	1. 1. 0

Warldron	Henry Edwards			10.	6
Berkhamstead		Edward Sexton			
		Joseph Pyall	1.	1.	0
Hythe		Letter			
Chatham	Saml. Neale				
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Dendy	1.	11.	6
Head corn	John Boorman				
	Ed. Love		1.	1.	0
Canterbury		Letter			
Brentford		John Barrett			
Smarden		Letter			
Farnham		Thos. Paisley			
		James Ellis	0.	5.	0
Burnham		Ham Stacey			
Dover		Letter	1.	1.	0
Wingham		Letter	1.	1.	0
Lincolnshire Association					

Ballance last year 7. 11. 7, Received this 12. 17. 0

Paid 13. 10. 4 In Hand 6. 18. 3.

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read and confirmed.

[Messengers.]

Brothers Noble & Doble desire that the Choice of them to be Messengers be deferred as several Churches belonging to this Assembly have nominated some other Persons as proper with them to increase the Number of Messengers, if agreeable to the general Voice of this Assembly.

[Moreton Hampstead.] [Page 193.]

The general Assembly having made Enquiry after a proper person *to minister to the Church at Moreton Hampsted Devonshire, and finding no one suitable, declare their Intention to pursue the said Enquiry to serve & assist them.

[Messenger in Kent.]

After reading several Letters from the Churches in Kent recommending Persons to this Assembly for the Choice of a Messenger to be added to the Nomination of Brothers Noble & Doble, we find that Brother Sampson Kingsford is most generally recommended & we approve & recommend the same to be elected with them to that Office & ordaind—and it is our Desire that Brother Boorman & Brother Love do wait on Brother Doble & Dr. Jeffries & Brother Brown do wait on Brother Noble & Mr. Geere do wait on Brother Kingsford to request their Acceptance of that Office.

[Absentee members commended to nearest pastor.]

Several friendly Letters were received & read and wholesome Advice given which are hereby acknowledged and in particular we chearfully adopt One Rule of Conduct & would recommend it to all the Churches viz. If any Pastor of our Churches have a Member or Members residing near any of our Sister Churches that then such Pastor do write to the Pastor near to whom they may reside desiring him to take christian Notice of such Member or Members.

The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office [Accounts.] were deliverd in from the Churches & on Auditing the Accounts appear as above.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun Week at the Meeting house in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street in the Year 1783 that Bro. Finch do preach on his Default Brother Sampson Kingsford, on his Default Brother Love.

Agreed that this Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Ben. Dobel[2]
Henry Edwards
Thos. Turll[2]
Danl. Noble

C. Bulkley[1]
Edwd. Love
Josiah Dancy
Cha. Titford
J. Brown
David Sale

Jas. Pyall[1]
Thos. Piety[2]
Jon. Dendy
Jno. Ellis
Edwd. Mockford[2]

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting house, in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street, London On Wednesday the 11th of June 1783. [Page 194.] [1783, June 11.] [Worship Street]

After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer [Officers.] and hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Kingsford, the following Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present, Brother Philp. Chapman was chose Chairman & Brothers Sampson Kingsford & Wm. Thrussell Moderators.

---

[1] All one column in original.

[2] The discrepancies between the list at the head and the signatures are more striking than usual. Seven members registered as present do not sign. Four people not registered as present do sign; nor can these be signatures from 1783 at the confirmation of the minutes, for they were not all present then. If Thomas Piety be the true reading, and this be not Thomas Paisley of Farnham, then Ramsgate appears to be represented, though not mentioned at the head; Wingham however was a sister church.

[Members present.]

Messengers Brothers Evershed & Boorman

Ch.	Elders	Represent.	£		
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsley down	Josph. Brown	John Brent			
		John Jee	1.	1.	0
[1]Glasshouse-yard	Dnl. Noble	Stephen Dendy			
		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green		David & Robt. Sale	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook		Thos. Ranger			
		Chls. Titford	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		Josiah Dancy	1.	1.	0
Warldron					
Berkhamsted	Wm. Thrussell	Joseph Pyall			
Hythe		Thos, Morris	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Saml. Neale				
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Agate			
		John Brown	1.	11.	6
Headcorn		Jonathan Clarke	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford	Wm. Fowler			
	Phil. Chapman	Copper Chapman			
		Joseph Sayer	2.	2.	0
Brentford		John Barratt	0.	10.	6
Smarden	Seaton		0.	10.	6
Farnham		John Ellis	0.	5.	0
Dover	Ashdown	Sampson Pearce			
Wingham		John & Edwd. Kingsford	1.	1.	0
Chichester					
Portsmouth			1.	1.	0
Newport	John Sturch				
Deal	James Fenn				
Ramsgate					
Horley	Nath. Palmer				
	Thos. Turl		0.	10.	6

Lincolnshire Association.

The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed.

[Page 195.] [Moreton Hampstead.]

*We have the Pleasure to inform the Churches in general that the Church at Moreton Hampsted Devonshire, which, requested the Assembly to recommend a Minister to them, is now comfortably supplied.

[Messengers.]

Mr. Dobel, submitting his appointment to the Office of a Messenger to the judgment of this Assembly, they have unanimously appointed him to be ordained.

---

[1] This entry inserted.

Brother Sampson Kingsford, submitting his appointment to the Office of a Messenger to the Judgment of this Assembly, they have unanimously appointed him to be ordained upon obtaining the Concurrence & Consent of his People, & Brother Boorman & Brother Ashdowne are to treat with the Church at Canterbury for that Purpose

Mr. Noble, submitting his appointment to the Office of a Messenger to the Judgment of this Assembly, they have unanimously appointed him to be ordained, provided his People agree thereto, upon which Subject he will Consult them.

The Ordination of the above Persons is appointed to be at Canterbury, the last Tuesday in July next.

[Absentee. members.]

It is again recommended to all the Churches. viz That if any Pastor of our Churches have a Member or Members, Hearer or Hearers residing near any Sister Churches, that then such Pastor do write to the Pastor near to whom they may reside desiring him to take Christian Notice of such Persons.

[Annual Enquiry ?]

With respect to the Plan proposed to the Assembly by Wm. Kingsford it was generally approved & he is desired to print & send Copies of it to the Churches as soon as may be, & they are desired to return an Answer to him as soon as convenient & the Churches are desired to instruct their Representatives concerning it, against the next Assembly

[Accounts.]

The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office were deliverd in from the Churches and on auditing the Accounts appear as above.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun Week, at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, in the Year 1784 and that Brother Love do preach and on his Default Brother Chapman and that Service begin at half after Nine

Agreed that this Book be deposited under the Care of J. Brown.

[Page 196.]
[Signatures.]

*Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Phil. Chapman
Sampn. Kingsford
Wm. Thrussell
Wm. Ashdowne
Sampson Peirce
Copr. Chapman

Chas. Titford
Thos. Ranger
Danl. Noble
Jos. Fenn
David Sale
Robt. Sale
Jno. Ellis

Jos. Sayer
E. Kingsford
Josh. Pyall
Thos. Morriss Junr.

[Page 197.] [1784, June 2.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street London, on Wednesday the 2d. of June 1784.

[Officers.] After seeking divine Assistance & Direction by Prayer & hearing a Sermon preached by Brother Love, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches being present, Brother Sampson Kingsford was chose Chairman & Brothers Boorman & Evershed Moderators

[Members present.] Messengers Brothers Evershed & Boorman, Dobel & Sampson Kingsford

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£.	s.	d.
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsley down	Joseph Brown	John Brent &			
		John Jee	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse Yard		Stephen Dendy			
		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Besels Green		David Sale			
		John Colgate	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	Dobel	Stephen Fox	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		John Burgess (Case)	1.	1.	0
Warldron					
Berkhamsted		Joseph Pyall	1.	11.	6
Hythe					
Chatham	Saml. Neale				
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Dendy	1.	1.	0
Headcorn	Bro. Boorman	Robert Pyall			
	& Love	Letter	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Samn. Kingsford	Wm. Fowler			
		James Drowley			
Brentford		John Barrat			
Smarden					
Farnham		John Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover	Stepn. Philpot		1.	1.	0
Wingham		Wm. Kingsford			
		Letter	0.	10.	6
Chichester					
Portsmouth		Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport					

Deal	James Fenn	Stephen Carter	0. 10. 6
Millbourne	Thos. Barron		
Ramsgate			
Horley	Nathl. Palmer		
	Thos. Turll		0. 10. 6
			12. 12. 0

Lincolnshire Association	Josph. Proud
Burnham	Ham Stacey
[1]Leicester Association[1]	Danl. Taylor[2]
	Letter

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed.

Reported by the Messengers Brothers Boorman & Evershed that they have ordained Brothers Dobel, Sampson Kingsford & *Noble, as appointed at the last Assembly since which Time we have received the melancholy Account of the Death of our Brother Noble.

[Page 198.]

We still recommend to all the Churches, that, if any of them have a Member or Members, Hearer or Hearers, residing near any of our Sister Churches, that the Pastor Minister or Deacon do write to the Pastor, Minister or Deacon of such Church near whom they reside desiring them to take christian Notice of such Persons.

As some of our Churches have neglected to send recommendatory Letters with their Representatives, such Churches are requested for the future to send such[3] Letters with them.

[Overtures from the New Connexion.]

On a proposal of union from the Leicester Association (by Brothr. Dan. Taylor) with this Assembly under particular Restrictions, it was agreed to refer the Case to our several Churches, & request their Determination by their Representatives at the next Assembly. (for the Letter to this Asembly on this Subject see the Copy at the reverse End of this Book)[4]

---

[1] Not the old Leicestershire Association, which was last heard from in 1766, and which met as lately as 1776, according to Wood, page 149. This is the "Northern Association" of the New Connexion, as it styles itself in the letter appended; it had recently held its annual meeting at Kirton-in-Lindsey, an old General Baptist church which had quitted its immemorial associates for the New Connexion in 1779. The Northern Association had already gleaned a secession church at Maltby, Grantham's old church at Yarmouth, and the outlying cause at Ashford in Derbyshire: this year it was strengthened by Leicester and Gosberton, while troubles at Wisbech were on the verge of giving them the church there.

[2] Daniel Taylor was no longer a raw youth who could be overlooked. Aged 36, he was the soul of the New Connexion. For one year Thompson of Boston had been put in the chair at its Association meeting, but on every other occasion, even in Thompson's own meeting-house, Taylor presided.

[3] Originally, recommendatory.

Entered on the Consideration of Brother Kingsfords Plan, but being late, adjourn'd to thursday morning Nine o'Clock.

[June 3.] Being again convened, after Prayer, we began to reconsider the said Plan.

[Annual enquiry into the spiritual state of each church.] It is agreed that the Religious[5] Questions proposed by Bro. Kingsford shall be asked, with the Amendments now made, every Year & the Churches are desired to send their Answers in writing or otherwise by their Representatives, to the whole or any part of them as they may think proper.[6]

It is agreed that the 9th Question shall be asked first.

As to the temporal Part of the Plan it is refered to a general Committee of the Whole Body, after the Business of the Churches is finished.

[Ministerial sustentation.] We recommend to our several Churches, a friendly Enquiry into the temporal Circumstances of their Ministers where there may be a Supposition of need, and chearfully to assist them.

[Ditchling.] On the Representation of the State of the Church at Ditchling we request our Brothers Doble & S. Kingsford to visit the said Church.

---

[4] This addendum is interlined. The letter is appended in this edition at the close of this year's minutes.

[5] Originally, spiritual.

[6] Sampson Kingsford was evidently profiting by the catechetical plan of the Methodists, requiring answers to definite questions, instead of letting churches write what news they liked. Next year he presided at Ramsgate over a visitation of that church, and asked the following questions, probably selected from his plan:—(1) Weather there be any Differances in your Church that are thought proper or that you are authorised to propos to this Meeting to be settled by us. (2) Is their any member that do not behave in an orderly and Reputable manner among you and are such Noticed and Reprovd (3) Wether a Regard be paid to the improvement of youth and Wether the Promising Gifts for the Ministry among them be Tryd and Encoraged (4) Wether your Chuch be on the increase or decline and what is your present number. (5) Is the word of God Statedly and Constantly Administered amongst you and do your Members steadely Attend the word Thus preachd (6) Are your poor and Needy Members attended to with Brotherly Care and tenderness. Secular Buisness. Wether there be any Masters or Missteress want Servants, or Journemen and apprentices want places and wether there be any opening for Buisness In our Connection.

Fund for Messengers Ballance last Year £15. 14. 6. Recived this Year £12. 12. 0 Paid £21. 17. 3. Ballce. £6. 9. 3. [Accounts.]

The Collections for the Support of the Messengers Office were deliverd in from the several Churches and on auditing the Accounts appear as above.

*Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday, in Whitsun week, at the Meeting-house, in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, in the Year 1785; & that Brother Chapman do preach, & on his Default, Brother Fenn; & that the Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet for transacting Business, at half past nine, & that public Service begin at Eleven. [Page 199.]

Agreed that the Assembly[7] Book be deposited under the Care of J. Brown.

N.B. The several Messengers, Elders & Representatives are desired so to manage their Affairs that, if Necessity require it; they may attend on Thursday, to finish the Temporal Business of the Assembly. Adjourned.

The General Committee having met according to Adjournment.

It was resolved that, on a Review of the Plan respecting temporal Matters, it will be best for our Churches to send an Account annually, by their Representatives, to the Assembly, of the Names of their several Manufacturers & Tradesmen, &c. in Order that they may be inserted in the Assembly Letter. [Trade directory to be added to Assembly letter.]

Agreed that Brother Brown do print the Annual Letter, & List &c and, as the Expence will be increas'd, it be referred to the next Meeting of the Assembly to consider of the Ways & Means to defray said Expence. [Printing.]

Resolved that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to our Brother Kingsford for his Attention to the general Interest, & his Expence, if required, be also referd as above.

Adjourned to the Time & Place as above.

[Signatures.]

Sampn. Kingsford
Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
B. Dobel
Jas. Fenn
Joseph Proud
Wm. Kingsford
Edwd. Love

Jas. Drowley
Stephen Philpot
Wm. Fowler
David Sale
Thos. Barron
Jno. Colgate
John Burgess

---

[7] Interlined.

[Page 348.] *The following is the Copy of Letter sent to the General Assembly Meeting in Worship Street London at Whitsontide in the Year 1784

Dear Friends and Brethren

[" We of the Northern Association approve Kingsford's plan] We who Compose the Northern Association[8] take the freedom to Inform you that we have received some Copies of Mr. Kingsford's plan,[9] and have taken some pains in considering the Design and Contents of it. Upon Mature reflection, we apprehend that it is Calculated, if properly put in Execution, with such Improvments as you will be able to add, to promote the spiritual Welfare of the Churches in General, and the temporal advantage of many Individuals, in several parts of the Kingdom.[10] Viewing it in this Light, we cant but wish Success to every prudent Effort towards the Execution of it; and so far as may be Judged right, both by You and us, when such matters are settled as will be necessary for the Union supposed in the plan, we wish to Join in these Efforts.[11]

[" but offer queries to be sure of fuller agreement] But in order, bretheren, that every one may recieve full satisfaction, that we all Act, with Integrity,— that nothing may be disguised, which is necessary to be known, and that there may be a real and substantial harmony among us all, we think it may not be improper, with Christian freedom to mention a few things, which You have a right to know; and the mention of which may prevent future Altercation and unhappiness.

[Page 347.] 1sly. [" Perfect uniformity not arrived at, in doctrine] *We apprehend the Plan under consideration does not require a perfect Conformity to one another in every religious sentiment, though we can assure you, that we take a great pleasure in agreeing with You, and with all other Professions of Religion, so far as we can.

2ly. [" or in worship] Nor do we think the plan necessitates all who approve of it, and unite in the Execution of it, to be exactly agreed in the practice of some forms of religion, and some appendages of it, such as Singing in public worship, the Messengers office, Laying on of hands on newly baptized persons, &c In these two last points, there is a difference, even in our[12] connection.[13]

---

[8] The Northern (and really only) Association of the "New Connexion of General Baptists formed in 1770."

[9] Copies had been sent to the Leicestershire Conference of the New Connexion, and on April 14 from the former Assembly church at Friar Lane, that Conference referred the consideration to the Association.

[10] The Northern Association had sprung from two Methodist roots, and was familiar with the Methodist catechetical plan.

[11] The plan was a distinct overture for union.

3ly. ["We hold Atonement and Justification by Faith fundamental]

We find it necessary to apprise You bretheren that we can't be any means apprehend it to be our Duty as Christians, to be so closely and particularly united with some general Baptists, as with others. We speak now[12] of those who deny the proper atonement of Christ for the Sins of Men, and that Justification before God, and acceptance with him are enjoyed by Faith in Christ, and not by works, which we apprehend to be very fundamental doctrines in the Gospel System in several respects. Now we find ourselves, in conscience, oblig'd to except against what we call a close[12] union with all Ministers and Churches of this Class, particularly in those two instances. We cant think it right to change Pulpits with such Ministers as these, or to Encourage them to Preach to our Congregations, as we are persuaded that their Ministrations must have a pernicious Influence on the minds of the people. Nor can we think it safe to recieve Members[12] of such Churches into our Fellowship, in case of removal from one Country, or part of the Kingdom to another, upon the recomendation of the Churches to which they belong, 'till we have examined the conversion and conversation of those members, who may on that account offer themselves to our fellowship.

4ly. ["and cannot help churches opposing these doctrines]

There are several Churches among us who cant find their way open to promise their assistance in making Collections, if desired, for the building of meeting houses, in which the above doctrines are designed to be opposed. And we apprehend there may possibly be some other cases in which we shall find the like difficulty.

---

[12] Underlined.

[13] Because the churches gleaned from the Assembly held to the old lines, and the Methodist churches cared nothing about them. It was on this rock that the negotiations split. Next year the reply to this letter, given in at Boston to the Northern Association, stipulated for Laying on of hands, and Abstention from eating blood. See Wood, page 188. Some of the Leicestershire ministers were circulating Boyce's tract on Singing, and were rebuked by their brethren next year, as it had been decided that plain four-part tunes, unaccompanied, were desirable, and as collections of hymns were already being contemplated.

5th. ["while some oppose union on any terms] & finally, We find it necessary to Inform You, Bretheren, that with all these restrictions, there are several Individuals, and some Churches who are not yet come to a Conclusion in favour of the Union supposed in the plan; and a few seem to be warm and possitive against it. But the time for consideration has been short, and what will be the Issue of our present consultations respecting it, we cannot pretend to know. And we who compose this Association are happy and harmonious, and would earnestly wish to proceed with Caution, lest anything should open a way to alienate our affections from each other and therefore we ["so we defer a decision] apprehend it to be most eligible, to desire a little more time to consider of the matter, before any of us commence [Page 346.] a formal Union with the General Assembly. But *But we supposed it proper, to Lay these things fairly before You, as an evidence of our sincere affection for all who Love our dear Savior, and our cordial wishes for the prosperity of his Interests, and the Success of every project that may contribute thereto.

["and pray you may be divinely directed."] We Conclude with assuring You of our ardent desire for your prosperity. And we pray that you may be under divine direction, in all the Business of your present Assembly.

Signed, in behalf and by the Authority of the Associated Bretheren, by

D. Taylor, Chairman
Abraham Austin } Moderators[14]
Samuel Deacon }

[Page 200.] [1785, May 18.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street London on Wednesday the 18th of May 1785

[Officers.] Brother Dobel in the Chair & Brothers Evershed & Boorman Moderators

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present.

---

[14] These two brethren were of the new Leicestershire group, opposed from the first to all union.

Messengers Brothers Evershed, Boorman, Dobel, Sampson Kingsford. [Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsly down	Joseph Brown	Wm. Brent Jno. Jee			
Glasshouse yard		Jno. Treacher			
Bessels Green		David & Robt. Sale	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobel	Stephen Fox	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		John Burgess	1.	1.	0
Warldron					
Berkhamsted		James Dowley	1.	1.	0
Hythe					
Chatham[1]			1.	1.	0
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Dendy Wm. Agate	1.	1.	0
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman		1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford		2.	2.	0
Brentford		Jno. Barrat			
Smarden	Joseph Seaton				
Farnham		Thos. Pisley			
Dover	Stepn. Philpot				
Wingham		Willm. Kingsford	0	10.	6
Chichester					
Portsmouth	Jno. Mills	Letter	1.	1.	0
Deal	James Fenn		0.	10.	6
Millbourn	Thos. Barron		0.	10.	6
Ramsgate		Geo. Kingsford			
Horley	Nat. Palmer & T. Turl		0.	10.	6
Burnham		Ham Stacey			
Lincolnshire Association		Letter			
Leicestersh. do.		Letter			

Ballance last Year £6. 9. 3—Recived this Year £12. 1. 6 [Accounts.] Paid £17. 1. 6 Ball. £1. 9. 3.

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed.

A Sermon was preached by Brother Fenn.

*While we are glad to hear that our Churches have [Page 201.] attended to the Recommendation of the Assembly last Year we still continue to request that if any of them have[2] a Member or Members, Hearer or Hearers, residing near any of our Sister Churches, that the Pastor, Minister or Deacon, do write to the Pastor, Minister or Deacon of such Church, near whom they reside, desiring them to take christian notice of such persons.

---

[1] Joseph Seaton was entered as Elder, and the entry was cancelled. See Smarden.

[Union on our conditions only.] On a proposal of union from Leicestershire Association under particular restrictions, &c which was last year referred to our several Churches, We all agree that an Union is desirable & we are willing to receive our [2]general Baptist[2] Brethren in Love [2]who hold[2] the Principles of general Redemption &[3] the truths recorded in Heb. 6. 1—2[4] leaving them as to the Articles mentioned in their Letter to their own Liberty, and if such an Union on this broad Basis is desired, a Basis on which the Assembly for many years hath stood, we should think it a joyful Day, and look on it as a happy presage of a lasting Union.

[Responses to enquiries.] On asking the Questions of the several Churches as proposed last year, some answered & some did not. From several Churches we had a good account, & we recommend to others, who have acknowledged their Deficiencies, by their Representatives, to exert themselves in future to support discipline, encourage communicants, admonish the carless & reprove the unruly.

[Ditchling.] Reported by Brothers Dobel & Kingsford that they have visited the Church at Ditchling, as appointed by last Assembly.

[Printing.] Agreed that the Expence of printing the Letters be paid out of the Collections for supporting the Messengers; & that the Churches for this purpose be requested to increase their Collections.

The Collections this Year on auditing accounts appear as above.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week, at the meeting house in Worship Street, in the year 1786 and Brother Chapman, do preach, & on his default Brother Philpot, and that the Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at half past nine, and that public Service begin at Eleven.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

---

[2] Interlined.

[3] The word, holding, follows and is cancelled.

[4] The words, as was declared in the year 1774, follow and are cancelled.

[Page 202.]
[Signatures.]

*Wm. Evershed
John Boorman
Ben. Dobel
Sampn. Kingsford
Jas. Fenn
N. Palmer
Stephen Philpot
John Burgess
John Treacher
Thomas Barron

Thos. Pisely
Wm. Kingsford
Jas. Drowley
Geo. Kingsford
Thos. Turll
David Sale
Robt. Sale
George Drowley
Stepn. Fox

[Page 203.]
[1786, June 7.]
[Worship Street]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the General Baptist Meeting-house in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street, London, on Wednesday, June 7th 1786.

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present

Messengers Brothers Evershed Boorman, Dobel, Sampson Kingsford.

[Officers.]

Brother Sampson Kingsford[1] in the Chair, & Bror. Boorman & Dobel Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
Whites Alley[2]	Charles Bulkley				
Glasshouse Yard		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green	Edd. Morrel	David Sale			
		John Colgate	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook[2]	Benjn. Dobel	Stephen Fox	1.	4.	0
Warldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Sexton	John Kingsford	1.	1.	0
Hythe					
Chatham	Neale				
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Agate	1.	1.	0
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman	John Iggelsden	1.	5.	0
Canterbury	Sampn.Kingsford	Willm. Fowler			
		Copper Chapman	1.	1.	0

---

[1] Originally, Dobel.

[2] Certain marks are in the margin against these names, which convey no obvious meaning. They may refer to the last two entries, which would naturally follow at these two places.

Coggershal[3]		Robt. French	
Brentford		Jno. Barrat	0. 10. 6
Smarden	Joseph Seaton		
Farnham		John Ellis	0. 10. 6
Dover	Stephen Philpot		1. 1. 0
Wingham			0. 10. 6
Chichester			
Portsmouth		James Brent	1. 1. 0
Deal	James Fenn		0. 10. 6
Millbourn	Thos. Barron		0. 10. 6
Ramsgate		George Kingsford	
Horley	Nat. Palmer & T. Turll		0. 10. 6
Burnham		Ham Stacey	0. 10. 6
Lincolnshire Association			
Leicestershire do.		Letter	
Horsley Down	J. Brown	Jno. Brent Jno. Jee	1. 1. 0
Ditchling		Jno. Dancy	1. 1. 0
			15. 1. 0

[Accounts.] Ballance last. 1. 9. 3 paid 13. 3. 5 Cash in hand 3. 6. 10

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed.

A Sermon was preached by Brother Philpot.

[Page 204.] [Leicester unites.] *As by a Letter from the Leicestershire Association, they have declared their Willingness to unite with this Assembly, as proposed last Year; We have accepted & agreed to such Union, & request for the furtherance of the grand Purposes of Religion in general, that they will send their Representatives annually amongst us.[4]

---

[3] This is the second appearance of a seceded church since 1786, and it slips back without notice. It had been grouped into the moribund Southern Association of the New Connexion. For seven years it is represented here again, then called a Particular Baptist minister and vanished over the horizon of the Assembly. Deal had slipped back in 1783.

[4] This minute is astonishing. The letter is not recorded in the book, and we cannot judge for ourselves. We are certain that the Northern Association declined to unite with the Lincolnshire Association, because the latter stipulated for certain ritual. And we are certain, by the letter of 1784, that it hesitated to unite with the Assembly. But it is clear that the Assembly considered this letter of 1786 an acceptance; it is clear that Gilbert Boyce, in 1789, had the same impression—"as our brethren of the Leicestershire Association are now in connection with the General Assembly in London," Taylor II. 324—and the

[Informations from the churches.]

Finding great Inconvenience and much Loss of Time in our asking the religious Questions relative to the State of the separate Churches, as practised in a former Assembly, we have agreed & do earnestly recommend, instead of the said Questions, that each Church for the future, before they send Representatives, do meet & consider the State of their Members & send an Account in Writing by their Representatives, [5]as follows[5]—What Pastors, Ministers & Deacons are amongst them? Whether the Word of God is statedly & constantly administered & the Members make good their Places? Whether Conferences & Prayer Meetings are kept up & Encouragement given to the Exercise of Gifts among the Youth? Whether the Church is on the Decline or Increase and what are the present Number of Members.

[Norwich.]

We have taken under Consideration the Request of the Church at Norwich under the pastoral Care of Brother Proud, and we think proper, as usual with this Assembly,[6] to defer

---

minutes of Assembly will show frequent correspondence, frequent representation, return of statistics, and a formal withdrawal in 1803. It would appear that Adam Taylor was rather ashamed of this coquetting, for he had these facts before him, and misrepresents them. And Wood, who had no access to these minutes, makes no allusion to the matter. It will be observed that these minutes, with this explicit statement, are signed by Dan Taylor, who, in 1785, had come to London, and was associated with Brittain in the pastorate of the Church-lane church in Whitechapel—the ancient Goodman's Fields congregation. The peculiarity of the situation is evident when we remember that this church in this year was formally received into the New Connexion, and is not represented at the Assembly. When the minutes of "The General Baptist Association, held at Boston, Lincolnshire, April 27th and 28th, 1785" are scanned to see how the matter was viewed by the New Connexion, we find the minute vague, and not specifying whether the overtures were made by Boyce on behalf of the Lincolnshire Association or the General Assembly, though the minutes of 1791 imply it was the latter, as Boyce then was negotiating for "the union of what are called the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire associations." The final result was "that nothing more was necessary to effect a reunion than their acceeding to the terms mentioned by us at the last association." It is distinctly interesting to find that these New Connexion minutes were this year printed by J. Brown, at the Printing-Office, Fair Street, Horsleydown, Southwark. In 1786 no allusion was made to the topic. In 1787 it was agreed that a friendly letter, with a copy of the minutes, be presented to the General Assembly, meeting in Worship Street. But inasmuch as a deputation was appointed then to visit the churches of Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Huntingdonshire, in which four counties only Wisbech had joined the New Connexion, it is not surprising if the friendliness should be misinterpreted.

[5] Interlined.

their connection with us until next Assembly that a further Account of the Church may be received: and we request our Brother Sampn. Kingsford to visit them in the course of this Year for that Purpose.

[Bucks needs ministers.] Whereas there appears, by inquiring into the State of the Churches to be a Want of Ministers in Buckinghamshire, particularly at Wendover, Aylesbury, Ford, Winslow & Wickham and Saffron Walden in Essex, we recommend it to the respective Churches belonging to this Assembly to spare what Ministers they are able for the Supply of these several Places or any of them and we further strongly advise & exhort our respective Churches to exert themselves as much as possible in the Encouragement of young Men whose Abilities are promising, to improve their Gifts by every possible Means, in Order to be employed in the Work of the Ministry. [Saffron Walden.] N.B. The interest at Saffron Walden have about 20£ a Year coming in from some freehold houses towards the Supply of a suitable Minister.[7] [Page 205.] There is also *a probability of a School at this Place, which might be a considerable Advantage to a Person properly qualified. We entreat our Churches to attend to these Circumstances; & we desire Brother Kingsford to visit Saffron Walden, in his Journey to or from Norwich.

The Collections of this Year on auditing appear as above.

[Messengers' fund short.] As there is a Deficiency of Money raised to defray the travelling expences of the Messengers, together with the additional Expences of printing the Assembly Letter, We recommend this Circumstance to the Attention of our Churches, particularly those Churches which have not made any Contributions for these purposes for some time past.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun-week, at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishops gate Street in the Year 1787, & that Brother Dan Taylor do preach, & on his Default Brother Jno. Deacon &

---

[6] Contrast Coggeshall, which re-enters without enquiry after renouncing in 1770: Norwich had quietly dropped out in 1772. The real fact was that a new minister had come, Joseph Proud, whose proceedings in Buckinghamshire, at Wisbech, and at Fleet were ample reason for an enquiry before admitting him.

[7] Forty-five years had elapsed since this church was represented here. It had been founded in 1711 by Robert Cosens, steward of Audley Palace, who at his death in 1726 had endowed it.

that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet for transacting Business at half past nine & that public Service begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited under the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Sampn. Kingsford
John Boorman
Wm. Evershed
Benjn. Dobel
Thos. Barron
Stephen Philpot
Jas. Fenn
Joseph Seaton
N. Palmer
Geo. Kingsford
Wm. Fowler
Cop. Chapman
John Iggelsden
Edward Merrall
John Kingsford

David Sale
Jno. Colgate
John Deacon
H. Stacey
Stepn. Fox
Saml. Neale
Dan Taylor
John Ellis
J. Brown

[Page 206.]
[1787, May 30.]
[Worship Street]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting-house in Worship Street, near Bishops gate Street, London, on Wednesday the 30th of May, 1787.

After seeking divine Assistance by prayer, the following Messengers, Elders & Representatives being present.

Messengers Brothers Evershed, Boorman, Doble & Sampson Kingsford

[Officers.]

Brother Ashdown in the Chair, & Brothers Sampson Kingsford & Philpot Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches,	Elders,	Representatives,	
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley		
Horsly down	J. Brown	John Brent & John Jee	1. 1. 0
Glasshouse yard		John Treacher	1. 1. 0
Bessels green		Wm. Burgess & David Sale	1. 1. 0
Cranbrook	Benjn. Doble		1. 5. 0
Ditcherling		John Dancy & Henry Brown	1. 1. 0

Waldron			
Berkhamstead			
Hythe			
Chatham	Saml. Neale		0. 10. 6
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	John Agate Thos. Billinghurst	1. 1. 0
Head-corn	Jno. Boorman & Edd. Love		1. 1. 0
Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford[1]	Wm. Fowler	1. 1. 0
Coggershal	Robert French		
Brentford		John Barrat	0. 10. 6
Smarden	Joseph Seaton		
Farnham		Jno. Ellis Wm. Evershed	0. 10. 6
Dover	Ashdown & Stn. Philpot		
Wingham		Wm. Kingsford[1]	0. 10. 6
Chichester			
Portsmouth		John Kingsford[1]	1. 1. 0
Newport Isle	John Sturch		
Deal			
Millbourn	Thomas Barron		0. 10. 6
Ramsgate[2]	George Kingsford[1]		
Horley	Nath. Palmer & Thos. Turll		0. 10. 6
Burnham			
Lincolnshire Association		Letter	
Leicestershire	Do.	Dan. Taylor[3]	
		Collected this Year	12. 16. 0

---

[1] The Kingsford family was doing now for the cause what the Kingsnoth family had done in the same county a century earlier.

[2] In April a great meeting was held at Ramsgate, when Messenger Sampson Kingsford ordained George Kingsford as Elder. Ashdown and Philpot of Dover, William Kingsford of Wingham, and Fenn of Deal signed as witnesses. But it is more remarkable to find besides Ranger of Eythorn, and Atwood of Folkestone, that Purchas was present; he was a decided Calvinist. The incident illustrates the extraordinary confusion of the time, when Kentish churches wavered between the old Association, the New Connexion, the Particular Association. The Ramsgate church, however, did not waver, and instructed its Elder to go to the Assembly regularly, voting a guinea yearly for the expense.

[3] Dan Taylor professed to represent the Northern Association; he preached as had been appointed a year before, he accepted a post on a committee, and he signed the minutes. When we find that John Deacon, pastor of the old Assembly church at Leicester, which had lately joined the New

Ball last Year 3. 6. 10 Received this 12. 16. 0. Paid 14. 7. 0 [Accounts.]
In hand 1. 15. 10

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed.

*A Sermon was preached by Brother Dan Taylor. [Page 207.]

On reading the Letters from the several Churches we are glad to hear that the Interest of Religion is on the whole increasing.

We have agreed unanimously to receive the Church at Norwich, under the pastoral Care of Brother Proud into Connection with this Assembly. [Norwich admitted.

We recommend to the Churches, who have sent an Account of the State of Religion amongst them, to continue yearly such Letters, as they are much to the comfort of our Assembly; & we again desire those, who have omitted sending such letters, not to neglect them for the future; and we further recommend frequent Meetings among the several Churches, to support Church discipline, call over the Names of their Members & use every method that may tend to revive & mentain the Power of Religion amongst them; & particularly that they be earnest & frequent in private prayer for themselves and their Ministers. [Yearly letters.]

A Minister is still wanting at Saffron Walden in Essex, and the Meeting houses at Winslow & Wickham in Bucks are unoccupied. [Essex and Bucks.]

The Church at Worplesdown, near Farnham Surrey, having erected a new meeting house, request the Assistance of the Churches in raising the sum of £200; & that the Subscriptions be left at Mr. Dendy's, Bridge foot, Southwark, before the 1st of October next. [Worplesdon.]

As we are desirous to ascertain the particular State of the Churches in connection with this Assembly, we request them to give us an accurate Account of the Number of their Members next Year. [Statistics wanted.]

Connexion, and had entertained the Northern Association last year, was appointed to preach next year, and did so, besides signing the minutes, it is difficult to understand the special pleading of Adam Taylor that the Association was not in union with the Assembly. And yet this very year he invited the Association to meet in London, presided over it, and wrote the Circular Letter. It had not been to London since 1771, and its appearance may mark the acknowledgment that the Southern Association was dead.

[4] Interlined.

[Slave-trade resolutions.] 1. Resolved that the Slave trade is inconsistent with every rational & humane principle.

2. That we approve of the Motion, intended to be made to Parliament for the Abolition of such a Trade.

3. Resolved the Brothers Stn. Lowdell, [4]Dendy, Treacher & Taylor[4] be appointed to wait on the Committee &c to let them know our Approbation, & readiness to assist in defraying the Expenses of such Application.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun-week, at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, in the Year 1788, and that Brother John Deacon do preach, and on his Default Brother Evershed; and that the Messengers, Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet for transacting Business, at half [Page 208.] past Nine; & that public *Service begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Wm. Evershed
Ben Dobel
John Boorman
Stepn. Philpot
Wm. Ashdowne
Sampn.Kingsford[5]
Wm. Kingsford

Dan Taylor[6]
John Deacon
Stephn. Lowdell
N. Palmer Senr.
Saml. Neale
Thos. Barron
Edwd. Love
David Sale

Thos. Turll[6]
John Ellis
Willm. Burgeis
Willm. Evershed
Thos. Billinghurst
Hy. Browne
John Dancy

[Page 209.] [1788, May 14.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street, London, on Wednesday the 14th of May 1788.

After seeking divine assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers, Elders & Representatives being present.

Messengers Brothers Evershed, Boorman, Doble & Sn. Kingsford

Officers.] Brother Sn Kingsford in the Chair & Brothers Doble & Taylor Moderators.

---

[5] Some wag added after the signature, Abp; for Kingsford of Canterbury was a veritable Archbishop now: but the irreverent addition was smudged out.

[6] All signatures are in one column.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£		
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsly down	J. Brown	John Jee John Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green	John Austin	David & Robert Sale	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	B. Doble	Stepn. Fox William Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		John Dancy Henry Brown	1.	1.	0
Waldron			0.	0.	0
Berkhamstead	Edwd. Sexton		1.	1.	0
Hythe			0.	0.	0
Horsham	W. Evershed	Thos. Billinghurst	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Saml. Neale			10.	6
Head corn	John Boorman	George Kingsford	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sn. Kingsford	Philip Chapman Junr.	1.	1.	0
Coggershal					
Brentford			0.	10.	6
Smarden	Joseph Seaton				
Farnham		John Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover	Stn. Philpot		1.	1.	0
Wingham		Wm. Kingsford	0.	10.	6
Chichester					
Portsmouth		Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal					
Millbourn		Letter	0.	10.	6
Ramsgate					
Horley	Thos. Turll	Nath. Palmer junr.	0.	10.	6
Burnham		Ham Stacey	0.	10.	6
Lincolns Asson.	Letter from	Mr. Boyce			
Liciesters do.		Dan Taylor			
Norwich[1]		John Hunt & John James	0.	10.	6
Ford & Aylesbury					
			£15.	4.	6

Ballance las Year £1. 5. 4 Recived this 15. 4. 6—Paid 13. 15. 0 [Accounts.] In hand 3. 5. 4.

The Minutes of the Proceedings of last Assembly were read & confirmed.

---

[1] As Elder was entered, Joseph Bond,—a mistake for Joseph Proud; it was cancelled.

[Page 210.] *A Sermon was preached by Brother Deacon from Acts 26. 17-18.

[Revival.] On reading the Several Letters from the Churches we have the pleasure to inform you that the Numbers of Hearers & Members are increased considerably, & that the Advice of this Assembly in pursuing the Means of supporting the Power of Religion by Conference &c has been attended with success, & we warmly recommend to the Churches, who have sent an Account of the State of Religion amongst them, to continue such Letters as they are much to the Comfort of our Assembly; and we again desire those who have omitted such Letters, not to neglect them for the future; and we further recommend to the Several Churches to keep up frequent Meetings to support Church Discipline, call over the Names of their Members, and use every Method that may tend to revive & mentain the Power of Religion amongst them, & particularly that they be earnest[2] in private Prayer for themselves & their Ministers.

[Ministers wanted.] A Minister is still wanting at Saffron Walden in Essex, and the Meeting houses at Winslow & Wickham in Bucks are unoccupied: A minister is also wanting at Fleet, in Lincolnshire.[3]

[Statistics.] Being desirous of ascertaining the Number of General Baptists in this kingdom we request our Brethren Dan Taylor & Sampn. Kingsford to make such Enquiries as they are able, and make report of the Same to the next Assembly.

[Slave-trade.] The Committee appointed last Year by this Assembly, report they have waited on the general Committee to carry in a Petition to the House for the Abolition of the Slave trade, & that Mr. Pitt has declared his Intention to bring it forward next Sessions.

[Thanksgiving.] As it appears from the Accounts given in by the several Churches, that the cause of Religion has gained ground, in a very considerable degree, we could wish that our Brethren in Connection will appoint a Day for the purpose of thanksgiving to God for this inestimable blessing; and that they will unite in fervent prayer that this may be continued in future. We also earnestly request that they will not forget to pray the Lord of the Harvest to send forth more Labourers, and give Success to those already raised.

---

[2] The word, particularly, is repeated here and cancelled.

[3] Proud had left Fleet hurriedly, after distracting it by insisting on congregational singing.

A Second Edition of Mr. Foot's Letters on Baptism being published[4] by Mr. Toulmin, we recommend the said publication as worthy the Purchase, serious Reading and distribution *among the Churches.[5] [Page 211.]

[General Baptist Fund.] The Trustees of the General baptist fund having determined annually to print their Receipts & Disbursements, and this Assembly agreeing to circulate them with their proceedings & being perswaded that the said fund is calculated to be useful for the purpose for which it is designed, We request the Ministers of our several Churches once a Year to preach a Sermon & make Collections for the same & send them to Mr. Lowdell, the Treasurer [6]Queen St[6] Southwark Park, on or before Whitsun-Tuesday Evening.[7]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsunweek at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, in Year 1789 & that Brother Evershed do preach and on his Default Brother Robinson & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the Several Churches do meet for transacting Business at half past Nine & that public Service begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

Josh. Seaton
John Dancy
Stepn. Fox
Wm. Buss
Hy. Browne
Robt. Sale
Robt. French

Sampn. Kingsford
Ben Dobel
Wm Evershed
John Boorman
Dan Taylor
Wm Kingsford
John Deacon
Stephen Philpot

Stephn. Lowdell[8]
Saml. Neale
David Sale
Thos. Turll
A. Robinson
N. Palmer Junr.
Geo. Kingsford
Phil. Chapman
Thos. Billinghurst

---

[4] Originally, printed.

[5] William Foot, after ministering to Tiverton, now a Particular Baptist church, and to Moreton Hampstead, now in touch with the Assembly, had in 1736 gone to a church at Callow Hill Street in Bristol. This was of a peculiar type, its most characteristic feature being a tendency to Socinianism. There he ministered till his death in 1782. He had published many works, including a Practical Discourse concerning Baptism, in 1739 and 1750, and a Plain Account of the Ordinance of Baptism in 1766. The latter is in question; the reprint has a biography appended.

[6] Interlined.

[7] Lowdell had some energy; next year he annotated this book, and he was instrumental in reviving White's Alley from its coma.

[8] These names are in the second column of the original.

[Page 212.] [1789, June 3.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday June the 3d 1789 at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street, near Bishopsgate Street London

After seeking divine Assistance by prayer, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present, viz, Brothers Evershed, Boorman & Sampson Kingsford, Messengers.

[Officers.] Brother James Fenn in the Chair, Brothers Philpot & Wm Kingsford Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horslydown	Joseph Brown	John Jee & John Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard		John Treacher & Wm. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessels green		Robert Colgate Wm. Burgess	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook		Joseph Dobel	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		John Dancy	1.	1.	0
Waldron		Letter			
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Sexton		1.	1.	0
Hythe			0.	10.	6
Horsham	Wm. Evershed[1]	John Dendy Wm. Agate	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Saml. Neale				
Headcorn	John Boorman	Robert Pyall	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Smsn. Kingsford	Copper Chapman	1.	1.	0
Coggershall	Robert French				
Brentford		John Barret	0.	10.	6
Smarden	Joseph Seaton				
Farnham		John Ellis Thos. Woodham	0.	10.	6
Dover	Stephen Philpot				
Wingham		Wm. Kingsford Jno. Kingsford	0.	10.	6
Chichester		Michl. Kingsford			
Portsmouth		Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport isle					
Deal	James Fenn		0.	10.	6
Millbourn	Thos. Barron		0.	10.	6
Ramsgate		Thos. Chapman			
Horley		Nath. Palmer	0.	10.	6
Burnham	Ham Stacey		0.	10.	6

---

[1] The name is written over an erasure.

Lincolns. Ass.		
Leicester do.	D. Taylor, J. Deacon, A. Austin	
Norwich		
Ford & Aylsbury		
		14. 3. 6

[Accounts.] On auditing the Accounts they appear as under, viz Ballance last Year 3. 5. 4 Reciv'd this 14. 3. 6 Paid 8. 8. 0 In hand £9. 0. 10.

[Page 213.] *The Minutes of the Proceedings of last Assembly were read & confirmed

A Sermon was preached by Brother Robinson of Cambridge from ii Peter[2] 3d & last Verse.[3]

1. We observe with Pain a defect in general in the Letters from the several Churches, with respect to an Account of their Attendance to Conferences, & other means of promoting the power of Religion amongst them. We therefore beg leave to repeat the Advice given on this Subject last Year, and intreat that in future the Churches will be particular in their Account of these Matters.

2. The Churches of Saffron Walden in Essex, Winslow & Wickham in Bucks, & Fleet in Lincolnshire remain still unprovided with Ministers.

3. The Slave trade Bill is now before the House.

4. [General Baptist Fund.] As several of the Churches have not collected any thing for the General Baptist fund, we think it necessary to recommend it to all our Churches not to fail of making some Collection for the above purpose, annually tho' it should be ever So small, & send them to Mr. Lowdell, Queen Stt. park, Southwark.

5. [Waldron.] On hearing the declining State of the Church at Waldron, and attending to their Request, we desire the Messengers to write to, & pay them a Visit.

6. [Circular Letter] We have received the friendly Advice of the Church at Portsmouth, & design next year to send a Circular Letter

---

[2] Originally, ii. Acts.

[3] Robert Robinson was pastor of the Calvinistic Baptist Church at St. Andrew's Street, Cambridge, which he had induced to admit unbaptized persons to communion. He was showing decided leanings to Socinianism, and next year preached his last sermon to Priestley's Unitarian congregation, exciting Priestley's surprise at his ridicule of the doctrine of the Trinity.

to all the Churches, with the Proceedings of the general Assembly, & do[4] appoint J. Brown & D. Taylor do draw up said Letter.

7. [Supply of vacant churches] A plan proposed by Brother Taylor to supply vacant Places, being in a[5] general View approved by this Assembly, we appoint Brothers Dan Taylor, James Fenn & Sampson Kingsford to consult together and bring forward the Plan for the Approbation of next Assembly.[6]

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Assembly be given to Mr. Robinson for his excellent Sermon, & that he be desired to print the Same.

9. Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week, at the Meeting-house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street in the year 1790 & that Brother Evershed do preach, & on his Default Brother Robinson, & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet for transacting Business at half past Nine & that public Service begin at Eleven o'Clock.

10. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.]

James Fenn
Stepn. Philpot
Willm. Kingsford
Sampn. Kingsford
John Boorman
John Deacon
D. Taylor
Wm. Brent
J. Jee
Copr. Chapman
Robt. Pyall

Joseph Seaton
Thos. Barron
Robt. Colgate
Wm. Burgeis
Nath. Palmer Junr.
Jno. Dendy
Wm. Agate
Jno. Ellis
John Treacher
Joseph Dobell

[Page 214.] [1790, May 26.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday 26th May 1790. at the Baptist Meeting-house in Worship Street, near Bishops Gate Street London,

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present

---

[4] Originally, that.

[5] Interlined.

[6] The week before this, Taylor had laid the plan before the New Connexion Association at Retford, who advised that it be laid before the Assembly. This is another recognition such as is mentioned in 1786.

Messengers Brothers Evershed, Boorman & Sn. Kingsford.

Brother D. Taylor in the Chair & Brothers John Boorman & James Fenn Moderators. [Officers.]

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsly down	Josh. Brown	John Jee			
		Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard		Thos. Bell			
		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels green	John Austin	John Colgate	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook		Willm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		John Dancy	1.	1.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Sexton		0.	10.	6
Hythe			0.	10.	6
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Thos. Billinghurst			
		& Thos. Evershed	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Saml. Neale		0.	10.	6
Headcorn	John Boorman	Saml. Love	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sn. Kingsford		1.	1.	0
Coggershal					
Brentford					
Smarden	Joseph Seaton	Thos. Powell	0.	10.	6
Farnham		John & Thos. Piseley	0.	10.	6
Dover	Stephen Philpot		0.	10.	6
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth		Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal	James Fenn		0.	10.	6
Millbourn		Letter	0.	10.	6
Ramsgate					
Horley	Thos. Turll		0.	10.	6
Burnham					
Norwich					
Ford & Aylesbury					
LincolnShire Association					
Licester Shr. Do.		D. Taylor	1.	1.	0
			14.	14.	0

*The Minutes of the Proceedings of last Assembly were read & confirmed [Page 215.]

A Sermon was preached by Brother Evershed

[Saffron Walden.] The Church at Saffron Walden, having applied to the Assembly for a Minister to serve them, We advise Mr. Bolton, on their Invitation, to visit them for a few Weeks upon Trial.

The Churches of Winslow & Wickham in Bucks, and Fleet in Lincolnshire remain still unprovided with Ministers.

The Case of Waldron Church we recommend to the attention of the Messengers Brothers Boorman & Dobel.

[Berkhamsted.] It being intimated that it is the Wish of the Church at Berkhamsted that one of the Messengers should visit them, we request Brother Boorman so to do.

[Conferences.] From the Reports of the Several Churches that have kept up Conferences &c of the Benefits arising therefrom, we request the Churches in general to be more attentive to this Mode of Instruction & Edification.

[General Baptist Fund.] We again recommend to all our Churches not to fail of making some Collection annually for the general Baptist Fund, & request that they will send an Account of what Sum is collected, on or before the 1st of May to Mr. Lowdell, Queen Street, Park, Southwark: Several Churches having sent Collections we gratefully acknowledge the Receipt, and hope others will follow their Example.

[Burnley, New Connexion.] A Petition being presenting from the General Baptist Church, at Burnley in Lancashire, for Assistance towards Defraying a Debt of One hundred and Sixty Pounds, incurred by the Erection of a Meeting house in Burnley, we recommend to the Churches to make Collections, & send the same to Stephen Lowdell Esqr. No. 34, Southwark Park.[1]

[Circular Letter] The Circular Letter appointed to be drawn up by J. Brown & D. Taylor, being presented to the Assembly it was ordered to be printed & signed by aforesaid, J. Brown D. Taylor.

[Try Taylor's plan to supply vacant churches] Brother Dan Taylor's Plan for Supply of vacant places was brought before the Assembly, and as before approved, but we fear the Accomplishment, however it was agreed to make the Experiment & recommend the Churches to assist by their Contributions.

---

[1] A New Connexion church asks and receives help from the Assembly. Their churches asked and received from the General Baptist Fund.

[2] The only systematic attempt yet to train Baptists for the ministry was at Bristol, and though the influence of Caleb Evans was peculiar, this was not a General Baptist institution. So far the rigid Calvinistic Baptists and the New Connexion had not taken any steps in this direction.

[Educate young ministers.] The Church at Saffron Walden having intimated a Desire for some plan to be adopted for the Education of young Ministers[2] Mr. Birley of St. Ives[3] was approved of as a Person proper for for that Business, and we appoint Brother Austin to write *to him in order to know his Sentiments upon [Page 216.] that Subject.

[Mitcham.] The Church at Mitcham having requested an Union with this Assembly, it is referred to next Year.

[Two days sessions ?] As the Business of the Assembly increases, & is likely to increase it was proposed in future to take two Days for the Dispatch of it. But the Propriety thereof we refer to the Churches to determine and send their Decision to the next General Assembly.[4]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun-week at the Meeting House, in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street in the Year 1791 & that Brother Anthony Robinson do preach & on his Default Edward Sexton, & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at half past nine for transacting Business and that public Worship begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

[Signatures.[5]]

D. Taylor Chairman

Jas. Fenn } Moderators
John Boorman }

Wm. Evershed
Sampn. Kingsford

---

[3] Birley was a scion of the one Derbyshire church, but had been associated since with Dan Taylor at Birchcliff, and with John Ryland at Northampton—facts which make us despair of rigid classification. His very catholicity doubtless helped in transforming the churches of Burton Latimer, North Moulton, Spratton, and Stoney Stratford. Another illustration of the mixture of parties is seen in that when he was ordained over St. Ives in 1786, Robert Robertson and Dan Taylor officiated, while he soon corresponded with Andrew Fuller. He was not likely to teach anything explicit; but as this year the old church—a continuation of Fenstanton—joined the New Connexion, and he declined this invitation, he did not guide the young ministers of the Assembly.

[4] A revival was proceeding also among the Particular Baptists, due doubtless to Fuller and Carey. One token of it is that John Rippon, reviving the traditions of Stinton, Crosby, and Thompson, began collecting and publishing statistics of his own denomination. He presently got the figures of the New Connexion, but asked in vain for facts about the Assembly.

[5] It is an innovation for only Officers and Messengers to sign; it became a precedent.

[Page 217.] [1791, June 15.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday the 15th June 1791 at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street London

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz Brothers Evershed Boorman & Dobel

Messengers—

[Officers.] Brother Dobel was Chose Chairman & Brothers Boorman & Philpot Moderators

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horslydown	Joseph Brown	John Jee & Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard		John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels green	John Austin		0.	10.	0
Cranbrook[1]		Creasy Unicum	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		Charles Lloyd	1.	1.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edward Sexton		1.	1.	0
Hythe					
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Thos. Billinghurst & Allen Brown	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Samuel Neale		0.	5.	0
Head corn	John Boorman	Robt. Buckhorn	1.	1.	0
Canterbury		Copper Chapman	1.	1.	0
Coggershall	Robt. French				
Brentford		John Barrat	0.	10.	6
Smarden	Joseph Seaton		0.	10.	6
Farnham		John Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover					
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth		John Brent	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal					
Millbourn		Letter	0.	10.	6
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot				
Ramsgate	George Kingsford				

---

[1] Dobel was entered as Elder here, but the name was cancelled. He was Elder, and he was present; but he ranked as Messenger and as Chairman. The Messengers were beginning again to magnify their office, and the process went on till at the present day it is explicitly stated that they "are officers of the Assembly, appointed by it, and sitting in it independently of their connection with any church." This, of course, was not the custom hitherto. Evershed and Boorman are named here both as Messengers and as Elders.

Horley	Thos. Turll	0. 10. 6
Burnham		
Norwich		
Ford & Aylsbury		
Lincolnshire Assn.[2]		
Leicestershire do.[2]		
Mitcham[3]	John Marson	

The Minutes of the Proceedings of last Assembly were read & confirmed—A Sermon was preached by Brother Edward Sexton from Eph. 3c, 8v.

The Report on 2d Article of last Year is—that the Church at Fleet in Lincolnshire is provided for but Winslow and Wickham are still vacant.

[Business arising out of minutes.]

*As to the Case of Waldron Church, we recommend again to the attention of Brothers Boorman & Dobel.

[Page 218.]

---

[2] This year the Lincolnshire ministers of this Leicestershire Association, *i.e.*, the Association of the New Connexion, founded a Lincolnshire Conference. The minutes of the second meeting, held at Fleet on Sept. 27, show the following Elders present:—From ancient churches came William Thompson of Boston, Thomas Mills of March, who had come there from Spratton in 1744, Thomas Rusling of Spalding, ordained by Boyce four years before, Samuel Wright his assistant, and Thomas Ewen a young preacher at Fleet. From churches which already had preachers of the New Connexion, were William Burgess of Fleet—deacon of Church Lane or Goodman's Fields in 1785, Joseph Binns of Gosberton from Yorkshire, John Smith of Tydd St. Giles from Long Sutton, and Joseph Freeston of Wisbech from Leicestershire. The singularity of the situation is accentuated by Poole of Long Sutton writing to criticise adversely, and by Boyce of Coningsby writing to approve. Fleet raised the question whether Laying on of hands were obligatory, and it was decided that mutual liberty was desirable. Overtures were made to Coningsby, Maltby, Spalding, Fleet and Killingholm, besides Wisbech and Chatteris, and it was mooted whether the churches should all be invited to join the "New, or Leicestershire Connexion," on the basis of mutual forbearance. The only stalwart was William Kelsey of Knipton, the man who as Elder of Ashford had repeatedly begged help from the Leicestershire Conference; he now opposed union on the ground that no church could dispense with what was divinely ordered.

[3] Marsom presently joined White's Alley and gave it a new lease of life—the Mitcham church merging. From the White's Alley records comes another copy of the minutes for this year, with a list of subscribers to the Fund for assisting Ministers and Students of the General Baptist persuasion. The places represented were London (Worship Street and Church Lane), Asterby, Boston, Burnley, Caldwell, Canterbury, Chatham, Chatteris, Chesham and Berkhamsted, Coggeshall, Coningsby, Cranbrook, Ditcherling, Fleet, Gosberton, Guildford, Headcorn and Smarden, Horsham, Knipton, Longwood, Maidstone, Melbourn, Mitcham, Monksthorp, Moreton-Hampstead, Nutfield, Oxted, Queenshead, Ramsgate, Rushall, Saffron Walden, Southwick, Staplehurst, Tetney, Thetford, Wadsworth, and Wisbech. Not a single Leicestershire church subscribed.

As to the 4th Article, Brother Boorman has visited the Church at Berkhamsted.

As to the 5th Article, we again recommend, from the Reports of the several Churches that have kept up Conferences, &c of the Benefits arising therefrom, that the Churches in general be more attentive to this Mode of Instruction and Edification.

[General Baptist Fund.]

We again recommend to all our Churches not to fail of making some Collection annually, for the general Baptist Fund, and request that they will send an Account of what Sum is collected, on or before the 1st of May next, to Mr. Lowdell, Queen Street, Park Southwark: several Churches having sent Collections, we gratefully acknowledge the Receipt and hope others will follow their Example.

[Burnley returns thanks.]

With respect to 7th Article We have the Pleasure to inform the Churches in general that the Church at Burnley have received very handsome Collections and return'd their thanks to this Assembly

As to the 9th Article, No Person having offerd his Service for the Supply of vacant Places, With reluctance we are obliged to drop the Project for the present.

[Birley declines.]

Brother Birley having declined the acceptance of the Education of young Ministers, the Plan proposed remains for further Consideration.

[Mitcham is admitted.]

The Church at Mitcham in Surrey of which Mr. John Marson is Elder having requested an Union with this Assembly have now been admitted.

[Lincolnshire case.]

A Letter being received from Brother Boyce respecting the Purchase of a Tenement that is very convenient as a passage to the Meeting House & the river for a Baptistery and there is wanting about 50£ for that Use, we recommend it to the Churches to assist them for that purpose by making Collections and sending them to Mr. Lowdell No 34 Southwark Park on or before January next.[4]

[One day only.]

As to the Assembly continuing two Days, we think a strict attention to the time of meeting & a proper dispatch of Business will close the whole in one Day.

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week, at the Meeting-house in Worship St. Bishopsgate Street in the Year 1792 And that Brother John Austin do preach, and on his Default Charles Lloyd. and that the

---

[4] Boyce applied next year to the Leicestershire Conference of the New Connexion, having reduced the debt to £30.

Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at half past Nine precisely to transact Business and that public Worship begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

Signed on behalf of the whole [Signatures.]

Benjn. Dobel Chairman

John Boorman and }
Stephen Philpot } Moderators

*The Proceedings of the general Assembly held on Wednesday the 30 of May 1792 at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, London. [Page 219.] [1792, May 30.] [Worship Street]

After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz

Brothers Evershed Boorman & Kingsford Messengers

Brother Taylor was chose Chairman & Brothers Kingsford & Philpot Moderators. [Officers.]

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsleydown	Joseph Brown	John Jee			
		Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse Yard[1]		John Treacher			
Bessels green		Robert Colgate	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook		John Love &			
		Creasy Unicum	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		James Brown	1.	1.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edd. Sexton		0.	10.	0
Hythe					
Horsham		John Dendy	1.	1.	0
Chatham	Saml. Neale	Case	0.	5.	0

---

[1] This line is added. The bare minutes do not show what was really happening, but the church records show that as soon as Daniel Noble died in 1783, Charles Bulkley was asked to preach and administer the Lord's Supper, until a pastor should be chosen. The arrangement lasted till 1793, when the 52 members elected John Evans, who with two university degrees entered on a busy literary career. The church was one of the strongest, numbering at this time the Lowdells and Treachers in its fellowship. From 1783 to the present century it claimed the privilege of catering for the Assembly meetings.

Head corn	John Boorman	Robert Pyall Case	1. 1. 0
Canterbury	S. Kingsford		1. 1. 0
Coggershal	Robert French		
Brentford		John Barrat	0. 10. 6
Smarden			0. 10. 6
Farnham		John Ellis	0. 10. 6
Dover		James Porter	0. 10. 6
Wingham			
Chichester			
Portsmouth		Letter	1. 1. 0
Newport Isle			
Deal	James Fenn	Morrice Bowles	
Millbourn			
Saffron Waldon[2]	Stephen Philpot		
Ramsgate[3]			
Horley	Thos Turll		0. 10. 6
Burnham			
Norwich			0. 10. 6
Ford & Aylesbury			
Lincolnshire Assosiation			
Leicester	Do.		
Mitcham	John Marsom		

[Accounts.] On Auditing the Accounts, they appear as under
Received with last Years Ballance £22. 16. 10
Paid this £14. 16. 6 Ballance £8. 0. 4.

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read and confirmed—A Sermon was Preached by Brother Job David[4] from Acts i—21—22.

[Page 220.] *The people of Winslow & Wickham still vacant of a Minister.

[Waldron.] As to the Case of Waldron Church Brothers Dobel & Kingsford are desired to visit the said Church.

[Fund.] We are glad to find the Recommendations relative to a Collection for the Fund have been attended to, & we trust our Churches will not fail in their future Contributions.

[Lincoln case.] Brother Boyce's case has been attended to by several Churches & those that have neglected it are requested speedily to make Collections, & send them to Mr. Lowdell or to Mr. Boyce.

---

[2] This year a new meeting-house was opened here.

[3] George Kingsford is entered as present; the entry is cancelled.

[4] Job David, of Taunton, renews the ties snapped with the death of Jefferies in 1783, when he attended Noble's funeral.

We recommend to the several Churches to send every Year to the Assembly their State & Situation, the Number of Ministers, Deacons, & Members as recommended a few Years ago [Statistics.]

The Revd.[5] Mr. Freeman, now residing at Ponders End Middlesex having been applied to as a proper Person to instruct young Men who have Abilities for the Ministry, [6]has consented to instruct such as may be sent to him to the best of his Power. & it is particularly requested that the Churches will exert themselves in their Contributions towards this important Undertaking. [A tutor for young ministers]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun week at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street in the Year 1793 and that Brother Evans do preach and on his Default Brother Marson—and that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at half past Nine precisely to transact Business and that Public Worship begin at Eleven o'Clock.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

Signed on behalf of the Whole [Signatures.]

D. Taylor- Chairman

Sampn. Kingsford }
Stephen Philpot } Moderators

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday 22nd of May 1793 at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street London. [Page 221.] [1793, May 22.] [Worship Street]

After seeking the Divine Assistance by Prayer, the following Messengers, Elders, & Representatives being present, viz Brothers Boorman, Evershed, Dobel & S. Kingsford Messengers.

Brothr. Dobel was chose Chairman & [Officers.]
Brothrs. Boorman & Philpot Moderators—

---

[5] First appearance of this title. Some annotator has doubly underscored it. Who he was is not clear. Stephen Freeman had in 1790 translated a French sermon, and to judge from the list of subscribers in 1794, and the minutes of 1797, this he. The great point is that the Assembly at last got to work on training for the ministry before the Northern Education Society at Bradford, or before the New Connexion at London.

[6] The word, he, precedes and is cancelled.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsley down	Joseph Brown	John Jee			
		Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse Yard	John Evans	John Treacher	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green	John Austen	John Colgate			
		Wm. Austen			
		Richd. Burgess			
		a letter	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobel	Thos. Ranger	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		Jas. Drowley	1.	1.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Sexton				
Hythe					
Horsham	Wm. Evershead		1.	11.	6
Chatham	Saml. Neale				
Headcorn	John Boorman	James Boorman			
		Jonathan Clark	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampn.Kingsford		1.	1.	0
Coggershall	Robert French				
Brentford		John Barrat	0.	10.	6
Smarden		A Letter	0.	10.	6
Farnham		John Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover	James Porter	A Letter			
Wingham		Wm. Kingsford			
Chichester					
	Carried Over		9.	19.	6

Page 222.]

*Churches	Elders	Representatives	£.	s.	d.
	Brot. fowd.		9.	19.	6
Portsmouth		A Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal	James Fenn				
Millbourn		A Letter			
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot	A Letter			
Ramsgate					
Horley	Thos. Turll		0.	10.	6
Burnham					
Norwich					
Ford & Aylesbury					
Lincolnshire Association		A Letter			
Leicestershire	Do.				
Mitcham	John Marsom				
			11.	11.	0

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Assembly were read & confirmed.

A Sermon was[1] Preached by Brothr. Evans, from 2nd. Corrins. 5c.—18v.

Agreed & Requested that Mr. Taylor do visit the Churches of Millbourn & Fullbourn. [Melbourne.]

Brothr. Boys having requested us to use our endeavours to raise £30 for the purpose of compleating the purchase which he lately made, agreeably to the recommendation of the Assembly, we have the pleasure to say, that our Brethren Sampn. Kingsford, John Treacher, & Stephn. Lowdell, readily came forward & liberally engaged to raise £5/5 each for this purpose; & we have reason to think, that their liberallity will be so followed by other of our friends, that the greater part of the sum may be raised by Michaelmas next. [Lincoln case.]

*Agreed, on the motion of Mr. Thos. Brown, that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the state of the writings & securities of any Estates belonging to the several Churches in connection with this Assembly; the following Committee were in consequence appointed to make such Enquiry. viz Mr. Thos. Brown, Mr. Lowdell, Revd. Dan Taylor, Revd. John Evans, Mr. Wm. Shinston, Mr. Titford, Mr. Treacher, & Mr. Wealde; & it is requested that our Country Friends[1] in the different parts of the Kingdom will gain Intilligence & send Information to the above Committee in London. All Letters to be address'd to Mr. Stephn. Lowdell, No. 34, Queen Street, Southwark Park.[2] [Page 223.] [Committee on trusts.]

The Churches of Ditcherling, & Lewes, & several other Churches are in want of Ministers.

A Circular Letter being produced by Brothr. Sampn. Kingsford, read and approved;[3] it was ordered to be printed with the proceedings of this Assembly. [Circular Letter]

Agreed that Brothr. Evans be appointed to draw up a circular Letter for the Year 1794.

---

[1] Interlined.

[2] One welcome result of this direction was the recovery of the five books belonging to White's Alley, which had been disused since 1761. The first of these is now best known as the Association Book, and is with the Assembly records. The other four are in the Guildhall Library. In each case a note by Lowdell is wafered in, detailing the recovery. They were lent to Rippon the Particular Baptist historian, who does not seem to have used them. See Introduction, II.

[3] Originally, confirmed.

Agreed, that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun-week, at the Meeting house in Worship Street, Bishopsgate Street, in the Year 1794, & that Brothr. Marsom do preach, & on his Default Brothr. Wm. Kingsford; & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at Eleven O Clock, & that Publick service begin at that hour.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of J. Brown.

Signed by order of the Assembly
Ben Dobel Chairman
John Boorman &
Stepn. Philpot } Moderators

[Page 224.] [1794, June 11.] [Worship Street] *The proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wenesday[1] June 11th 1794 at the Baptist Meeting house in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street London—

After seeking divine assistance by prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz Brothers Evershed Dobel & S. Kingsford Messengers—

[Officers.] Brother Fenn was chosen Chairman and Brothers Philpot and Marsom Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatves.	£.	s.	d.
White's Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsley down	Joseph Brown	Jno. Jee			
		Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
GlasshouseYard	Jno. Evans	Jas. Treacher			
		Wm. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessel's Green		Richd. Burgess[2]			
		Robt. Colgate	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	Benj. Dobel	Tho. Pawson			
		Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Dicherling		Wm. Davies	1.	1.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Sexton		0.	10.	6
Hythe					
Horsham	Wm. Evershed	Thos. Billinghurst	1.	1.	0
Chatham		Joseph Hobbs			
Headcorn		Robt. Pyall			
		Jno. Lane	1.	1.	0

---

[1] Interlined.

[2] Originally entered as Elder, then transferred.

Canterbury	Samsn. Kingsford		1.	1.	0	
Coggershall						
Brentford		Jno. Barratt	0.	10.	6	
Smarden & Staplehurst		a Letter	0.	10.	6	
Farnham		Jno. Ellis	0.	10.	6	
Dover						
Wingham						
*Chichester						[Page 225.]
Portsmouth		Letter	1.	1.	0	
Newport Isle						
Deal	James Fenn					
Milbourn						
Saffron Walden	Step. Philpot					
Ramsgate						
Horley	Thos. Turl		0.	10.	6	
Burnham						
Norwich						
Ford & Aylesbury						
Lincolnshire Assn.						
Liecester	Do.					
Mitcham	Jno. Marsom		0.	10.	6	
			12.	1.	6	

The Minutes of the Proceedgs. of the last Assembly were read and confirmed.

A Sermon was preached by Brother Marsom from Matt. 16. 18.

Brother Taylor not havg. had an opportunity to visit the Churches at Milborn & Fulborn we still recommend the case to Brother's Taylor's notice.[3] [Melbourn.]

With respect to the article relative to the Trust & writings of the General Baptist Churches nothing material has been done; we still wish[1] the object to be kept in view and one reason besides others that may be given for such business is, we are fearful some Churches may be lost for [Trust deeds.]

---

[3] Brother Taylor was busy entertaining the "Liecester" Association at Church Lane; and it was just agreed that it should meet in London every eighth year. No representative appeared here. Brittain died this year, and Church Lane at once abandoned the Laying on of Hands. How little the New Connexion considered itself in fellowship with the Assembly is seen by the Circular Letter of 1793 signed by Taylor. Discussing the advantage of frequent meetings for conference, it is said, "Is it not a glaring fact, that among the old General Baptists, their Cause in many places was nearly extinct, through the inattention of their Ministers, and others to these measures?" Both the tone, and the "their" show an attitude of aloofness.

want of proper attention in the choice of a new Trust when necessary.[4]

[Page 226.] [Ministers wanted.] *The Churches at Deal Maidstone Lewes are each of them in want of a Minister and no doubt but any Minister disposed to go to either place will meet wth some considerable assistance from the people.—

[Circular Letter] A Circular Letter produced by Brother Evans has been read—approved—and ordered to be printed.

[America.] By recommendation of the Kentish Association Brother Benjamin Dobel & Sampson Kingsford moved that a religious correspondence be opened between us and the General Baptists in America—which was accordingly agreed to.[5]

[Fenn to visit.] It was moved by the same recommendation that Brother S. Kingsford be desired to draw up a proper recommendation for Brother James Fenn who is going to America which was carried & B. Kingsford undertook to write the said Letter.

[Annual subscripton for educating ministers.] It appearing to the Assembly that the want of Ministers in the connection is increasing and that the formg. a fund for the defrayg the expences of the instruction of young men of abilities wd exceedingly tend to make a provision for [Page 227.] the supply of such want—It was moved that *an annual subscriptn. be set on foot immediately for the said purpose & was carried—and the followg sums were immediately subscribed—

	Per Annum.		
	£.	s.	d.
Mr. Treacher	5.	5.	0
Revd.[6] Mr. Kingsford	5.	5.	0
— Lowdell	5.	5.	0
— Titford	2.	2.	0
— Simpson	2.	2.	0
Revd. S. Freeman	2.	2.	0
— T. Freeman	2.	2.	0

---

[4] This waked up Ramsgate, and the deeds were renewed next year. Six years later the old Park Church did actually lose its building and its documents.

[5] It was a few years since Virginia and South Carolina had been in touch. Rippon had lately published statements that "we have a number of General Baptists in Kentucke" (I. 117); and that "nearly one half the inhabitants of both Virginia and South Carolina are Baptists" (I. 100). Considering the glowing accounts of the Rhode Island College, which had lately conferred honorary degrees not only on George Washington and on English Particular Baptists, but on William Richards, of Lynn (soon to be met here), and on several Taunton men, it was natural to think of sending a deputation.

[6] The "Revd." has come to stay.

Revd. — Dobel	2.	2.	0
— Bust	2.	2.	0
Revd. — Evans	1.	1.	0
Revd. — Marsom	1.	1.	0
Revd. — Oatcliff	1.	1.	0
— Weald	1.	1.	0
— Saxley	1.	1.	0
— Buss	1.	1.	0
	34.	13.	0

It was then moved that the above Gentlemen form a Committe for the purpose of carrying into effect the above resolution of formg the fund for the said purpose by collectg subscriptions etc.

Moved that Mr. Jno. Treacher No 43 Paternosterrow be appointed Treasurer & that the Revd. Jno. Evans be appointed Secretary for the said purpose. Any Member of the Committee will recieve the subscriptions to this infant institution. —that the several Ministers It is requested by the Assembly in the connection particularly press this business on the consideration of their seperate congregations and exhort them to come forward in promotg this very laudable design.

*Agreed that Brother Marsom[7] draw up the Circular Letter for 1795.

Agreed that this Assembly meet on Wednesday in Whitsun [Page 228.] week[8] at the Meeting house in Worship Street in Bishopsgate street in 1795. And that Brother Freeman preach and on his failure Brother Pyall and that the Messengers Elders & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at 7 O Clock [9]in Morning & Public[9] Service begin at Eleven.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of J. Brown.

Signed by order of the Assembly

Jas. Fenn Chairman

Stephen Philpot } Moderators
John Marsom }

---

[7] Originally, Freeman.

[8] Originally, Day.

[9] Originally, &.

[Page 229.] [1795, May 27.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedgs. of the General Assembly held on Wenesday May 27th 1795 at the Baptist Meetg. house in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street London.

After seeking divine assistance by prayer the followg Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz. Brothers, Boorman, Dobel & S. Kingsford.

Messengers[1]

[Officers.] Brother Taylor was chosen Chairman and Brothers Kingsford & Dobel Moderators.[1]

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£.	s.	d.
White's Alley	Charles Bulkley				
Horsley down	Josh. Brown	Jno. Jee & Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard	Jn. Evans	Jno. Treacher & Wm. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessel's Green	Edwd. Merriall	R. Burgess			
Cranbrook	Benj. Dobel		1.	1.	0
Dicherling		R. Snellgrove			
Waldron					
Berkhamstead	Edwd. Sexton		1.	1.	0
Hythe					
Horsham		Wm. Evershed			
Chatham	Jas.[2] Hobbs	Jno. Aylood			
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman	Robt. Pyall	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampsn. Kingsfd.		1.	1.	0
Boggershall					
Brentford		Jno. Barratt	0.	10.	6
Smarden & Staplehurst			0.	10.	6
Farnham		Jno. Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover					
Wingham		James Philpot	0.	10.	6
Chichester					
Portsmouth		a Letter	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal					
[Page 230.] *Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
Milbourne					
SaffronWaldron	Stephen. Philpot				
Ramsgate					
Horley	Thoms. Turl		0.	10.	6

---

[1] Added.

[2] Mistake for Jos. Joseph Hobbs had been helping Neale at Chatham since 1793; in 1795 he took sole charge, being ordained on April 30 by Dan Taylor. But the tension was great, and in 1800 he was excluded, whereupon he founded a new cause on evangelical lines; but in 1802 went to Berkhamsted to help Sexton, and seven years later took that church out of the Assembly.

Burnham		
Norwich		
Ford & Aylesbury		
Lincolnshire Associatn.		
Leicester	Do.	
Mitcham	Jno. Marsom & Jno. Simpson	0. 10. 6
Bourne		
Spalding		

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read & confirmed. A Sermon was preached by Brother Freeman from Rev. 3. 2.

2. Brother Taylor has not had an opportunity to visit the Churches at Milbourne and Fullborne, but is disposed to do it whenever he has a suitable opportunity.

3. [Ramsgate trusts.] With respect to the article relative to the trust some attention has been paid to it in East Kent which has been attended with some good effects—we earnestly wish that more attention were paid to it in other places than has hitherto been and that assiduity be used by the Committee appointed in 1793 for that purpose—which Committee was composed of the followg. persons Mr. Thomas Brown Mr. Lowdell—Revd. D. Taylor— Revd. Jno. Evans Mr. Wm. Shenstone—Mr. Titford—Mr. Treacher & Mr. Weald.

4. [Deal and Lewes.] We have the pleasure to be informed that the Churches[3] at Deal & Lewes are supplied with Ministers.

[Page 231.] 5. [America.] *In consequence of a motion at the last meeting Brother Dan Taylor & Brother Evans were appointed to carry on a correspondence with the General Baptists in America.

6. The recommendation Brother S. Kingsford was appointed to draw up for Brother James Fenn has been done.

7. [Education Fund.] The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly for the purpose of raising a fund by means of annual subscriptions for the education of Young Men for the Ministry —report That in addition to the subscribers then recorded they have obtained several others viz.

		£.	s.	d.	Donatn.
Mrs. Merlatt	Bristol	3.	3.	0	10. 10. 0
Miss Foot	Bristol	2.	2.	0	
Mr. Wm. Kingsford[4]	Barton Mills	5.	5.	0	

---

[3] Originally, Charity.

[4] He had built a meeting-house at Broadstairs at his own expense, opened by Dan Taylor, June 20, 1790. He had just written to John Deacon of Leicester asking for some young men who could come and engage in itinerant

Mr. Jno. Meadmore	4.	4.	0
Mr. Stephen Fox Cranbrook	1.	1.	0
Mrs. Fox Do.	1.	1.	0
Miss Bateman	5.	5.	0
Miss Waldron Trowbridge[5]	1.	1.	0
From Portsmouth	5.	0.	0
and from Hythe are promised when it may be called for	8.	6.	0

That they have recd. in part of these subscriptions the sum of £50. 8. and also Mrs. Merlatt's donation of £10. 10.

[Work to be begun,] The Committee having stated that they were in doubt whether the resolution of the last general Assembly instructed them to proceed to ye execution of the plan for wch. the subscriptions were collected by recievg candidates, placing them out for tuition & every thing else which may be necessary for fully executing the design of such subscripts.

it was resolved that the Assembly wish them thus to proceed in business.

[Page 232.]

8. [Dan Taylor to write on General Redemption.] *Brother D. Taylor was appointed to write the circular Letter for 1796. & a motion was made & carried that ye subject be general redemption.[6]

9. [Trade register.] A Letter havg. been sent from Mr. J. Kingsford of Portsmouth containg an advantageous situation in trade now to be disposed of—it was agreed that the thanks of ye Assembly be presented to Mr. Kingsford for the pains he has taken in the above business. And as it is thought it might be productive of great utility to the connection at large if a register were established for recievg. & communicatg. information relative to such subjects; It is agreed

---

preaching near Canterbury. The Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Conferences of the New Connexion were communicating with Treacher, "Treasurer of the Committee for the Education of young men for the ministry among the General Baptists." Lincolnshire was decidedly favourable to the plan, but Leicestershire cautiously remitted to the churches, and asked Deacon to print his own proposals for education. In 1797 on Dec. 11 a committee met to organize for instituting a General Baptist Academy. This rival action was one of the matters that strained the singular union of the "Leicester Association" with the Assembly. By 1800 the Academy had 35 agents, including the Kingsfords of Deal, Canterbury and Portsea, Hobbs of Chatham, Stanger of Fleet, Boyce of Coningsby, and others at such Assembly towns as Lyndhurst, Downton, Trowbridge, Fleet, Peterborough, Burgh, Maltby, Louth, Killingholm.

[5] Another ex-Calvinistic church coming near the orbit.

[6] The effect of this is seen in the attendance next year.

that an attempt be made for one year and it is therefore desired that all such persons in the connection who know of good situations or who wish for them either in trade or as Masters or Servants apply to Mr. Thos. Brown of Gainsford Street Southwark who is appointed Register.

10. [Statistics,] It being considered by many of our friends that a general knowledge of the state of the connection wd. be attended with some good effects it is desired that every Church *in future return to the Assembly an account of the [Page 233.] number of Members & of their increase and decrease &c. as was recommended in 1786 and on several occasions since that year.

11. [Messengers expenses.] It having been proposed it was agreed that if a messenger visit a church by appointment from the Assembly or because he himself judge it advantageous his expences shd. be borne by the fund for that purpose. But if a Church immediately send for the messenger that Church shall pay his expences.

12. A circular letter produced by Mr. Marsom was read, approved & ordered to be printed.

13. Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wenesday in Whitsun week at the Meeting house in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street in the year 1796 and that Brother Dobel do preach & on his failure Brother Philpot; & that the Messengers, Elders, & Representatives of the several Churches do meet at Seven O Clock in the Morng. & public service begin at 11 O Clock—and dine at four.

14. Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of Mr. Brown.

Signed by order of the Assembly,

D. Taylor Chairman

B. Dobel
Sampn. Kingsford } Moderators

[Page 234.] [1796, May 18.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wenesday May 18th 1796 at the Baptist Meeting-house in Worship Street Bishopsgate street London.—After seeking divine assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz.—

Brothers Evershed Boorman Dobel Kingsford.
Messengers

[Officers.] Brother Kingsford was chosen Chairman & Brothers Boorman & Philpot Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders.	Represents.	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	Ch. Bulkeley				
Horsley down	Jas. Brown	J. Jee Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse yard	Jno. Evans	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessels green	Edwd. Merrill	Rd. & Wm. Burgess	0.	10.	6
Cranbrook	Ben. Dobel	Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditcherling		James Brown	0.	10.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamstead	Edwd. Sexton				
Hythe					
Horsham	Wm. Evershed		1.	1.	0
Chatham	James Hobbs				
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman	Jno. Igglesdn. Jno. Love Junr.	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sams. Kingsford		1.	1.	0
Coggershall					
Brentford		Jno. Barrat	0.	10.	6
Smarden & Staplehurst			0.	10.	6
Farnham					
Dover	Samps. Pearce		0.	10.	6
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth	John Kingsford	Js. Brent Wm. Hill Thos. Brent	1.	1.	0
Newport Isle					
Deal					
Mill-bourn					
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot				
[Page 235.] *Ramsgate					
Horley	Thom. Turl		0.	10.	6
Burnham					
Norwich					
Ford & Aylesbury					
Lincoln Associatn.					
Leicester Do.		Dan. Taylor			
Mitcham					
Bourn					
Spalding		Batchelor	0.	5.	0
			10.	14.	6

A Sermon was preached by Brother Dobel 1 Cor. 16. 13 & 14.

1. The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2. [Other General Baptists co-opted.] Resolved upon a motion made by our Brother Evans that our brethren present of the General Baptist Connection but who are not Members of the Assembly be admitted members of the Assembly for this day.[1]

3. [General Baptist trustees.] The Assembly recurring to a minute that is inserted in the account of thier proceedings in the year 1793 & not having recd. any report from the committee then appointed it is agreed to recommend to the Churches particular attention to the several trusts belonging to thier meeting houses & donations for the support of the interest and that such persons only as are members of the General Baptist Churches upon a choice or renewal of trust be appointed.[2]

[Page 236.] 4. [America.] *Brother Dan Taylor & Brother Evans informed the Assembly that with respect to the correspondence they were appointed to carry on with the several General Baptists in America they had as yet no communications to make but that the correspondence will continue to be cultivated.

5. [Trade Registry] Resolved that Mr. Brown of Gainsford Street Southwark be continued to receive any information respecting eligible situations for trade & commerce or for ye binding of Apprentices in the Connection agreeable to the ninth minute in last year's proceedings of the Assembly.

6. [Ezekiel xxxiii. 32.] A Circular Letter produced by Mr. Taylor was read approved & ordered to be printed.

7. [Statistics,] The following is the statement recd. respecting the state of certain Churches Bessels green Members much of late years 47—many emigrated. Headcorn mem. 100 Pastors 3 resident—Preachers 2—1 Pastor—1 Minister not resident—Service well attended—3 Ordained Deacons. Chatham prosperous 1 Pastor 3 Deacons 3 Sermons on the Lord's Day Prayer Meeting on Tuesday & a Lecture Thursday. [Page 237.] *14 added this year 3 excluded—total number 42.— Canterbury 2 Pastors—1 Minister—Membrs. 125—3 Deacons. —Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 4 Deacons 110

---

[1] Spectators had been allowed before, but this is an innovation. If the New Connexion friends hoped for anything decisive, it must have been a disappointment to find the routine as usual, and Job David appointed as next writer.

[2] The Particular Baptists had got hold of the premises at Ford and High Wycombe, and were keeping the latter on the plea that the deeds did not specify "General" Baptists.

Members.—Dover no Deacons—no Pastor—1 Preacher; Portsmouth 1 Dead 2 Baptized—39 Members. 1 Pastor—1 Assistant Minister & several Deacons. As many of our Churches have omitted to make thier report we hope they will not fail to do it next year.[3]

8. [A student from Smarden.] The Committee of the Education Society inform the Assembly that they have admitted one Student from the Church at Smarden & that they have an opening for one more. They also wish that it may be particularly observed that the applications for admissions be addressed to Mr. J. Treacher Treasurer No. 43 Paternosterow; that the Candidates for admission must be Members of a General Baptist Church & have a recommendation from that Church signed by the Pastor & two of the Deacons or other Members of that Church.

9th. That Brother Job David do draw up the Letter for next Year upon The evidences of Christianity.[4]

Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wenesday in Whitsunweek at the meeting house in Worship Street London in the year 1797 & that Brother Philpot do preach & in case of his failure Brother John Kingsford of Portsmouth. and [Page 238.] that the Messengers Elders & repre*sentatives of the several Churches do meet at 7 O Clock in the Morning—public service begin at Eleven. & dine at four.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of Mr. Brown.

Signed by order of the Assembly—

Sampn Kingsford
John Boorman
Stephen Philpot.

[Page 239.] [1797, June 7.] [Worship Street] *The Proceeding of the General Assembly held on[1] Wednesday the 7th Day of June 1797 at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street London

After seeking divine assistance by Prayer The following Messengers Elders and Representatives being present viz.

---

[3] Henceforth statistics are given more or less regularly. No church returns 150 members. The New Connexion this year returned 3237 members, in 35 churches.

[4] This minute is inserted.

[1] The word, the, follows and is cancelled.

Brothers Boorman Dobel and Sampn. Kingsford Messengers

Brother Dan Taylor was chosen Chairman and Brothers Boorman and Sampn. Kingsford Moderators— [Officers.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives				[Members present.]
White's Alley[2]						
Horsely Down	Josph. Brown	Wm. Brent Saml. Brent	1.	1.	0	
Glass HouseYard	Jno. Evans	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford	1.	1.	0	
Bessels Green		Robt. Sale Davd. Colgate		10.	6	
Cranbrook	Benj. Dobel		1.	5.	9	
Ditcheling		Josiah Dancy Thoms. Judge	1.	1.	0	
Waldron				10.	6	
Berkhamsted	Edward Sexton					
Hythe		Joseph Pyall		10.	6	
Horsham		Wm. Evershed Isaac Jeffery				
Chatham	Josh. Hobbs			2.	6	
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman Robt. Pyall Benjn. Marten		1.	1.	0	
Canterbury	Sampn. Kingsford	Stephen Gowland				
Brentford		Jno. Barrat		10.	6	
Smarden & Staplehurst		A Letter		10.	6	
Farnham						
Dover		A Letter		10.	6	
Wingham						
Chichester						
Portsmouth		A Letter	1.	1.	0	
Newport Isle						
*Churches	Elders	Representatives				[Page 240.]
Deal		T. J. Kingsford		10.	6	
Milbourn						
Saffron Walden	Stepn. Philpot					
Ramsgate						
Horley	Thos. Turll			10.	6	
Burnham						

---

[2] Bulkley was dead after 54 years as pastor. So, too, was the church, nearly; five women and three men were left, who had not had a church meeting since 1761. Lowdell had rescued the books in 1794, and summed up the endowments, including one third (not one fourth) interest in Worship Street, as under a deed of 1781; besides a reversion to some property of Glass-House Yard church. The Mitcham church fused with this and started it anew.

Norwich	Mattw. Dexter	Richd. Barnham	10. 6
Ford and Aylesbury			
Lincolnshire Association			
Leicestershire Do.		Dan. Taylor	
Mitcham			
Bourne			
Spalding			

Recived with last Years Ballance £16. 18. 5 Paid this Year £6. 17. 0 Ballance in Hand £10. 1. 5.

1st. The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read and confirmed.

2nd. Resolved [3]on a motion made by bro' Sampn. Kingsford[3] That our Brethren present of the General Baptist Connection but who are not members of the Assembly, be admitted to assist in the business of our Assembly for this Day

3ly.[4] [Trust-deeds.] The 3rd Article of last year being read—a general enquiry was made into the situation of our several churches with respect to thier writings Trust & Donations. The following is the result. Brother Sampson Kingsford and William Kingsford are[5] appointed to apply to Dr. Hunt relative to the Norwich case mentioned by Mr. Dexter. Brother Sexton is advised to examine the Writings of Wickham Meeting house & make a report to the next Assembly.—Mr. Thomas Brown Mr. Treacher Mr. S. Brent Mr. Buck & Mr. Titford are appointed [6]to apply[6] to Mrs. Rebecca Newland respecting the trust of Deptford Meeting.[7]

[Page 241.] 4th. [America.] *Brothers Dan Taylor and J. Evans have written to America respecting the General Baptists there but have recieved no Answer, Bror. Fenn however being present who is just arived from America reports there are many General Baptists in America tho as yet they have not (so far as[8] he had learn'd) formed themselves into distinct Societies.

5th. [Trade Registry] Resolved that Mr. Brown of Gainsford Street Southwark be continued to recieve any information respecting eligible situations for Trade & Commerce or for the binding of Apprentices in the connection agreeable to the ninth minute in the proceedings of the Assembly for the year 1795. This

---

[3] Interlined.

[4] Written and cancelled.

[5] Originally, were.

[6] Repeated and cancelled.

[7] Norwich and Deptford lead to something.

[8] Originally, has.

Assembly return thanks to Mr. Thomas Cook of [3]Newport in[3] the Isle of Wight & to Mr. Thomas Brown of Gainsford Street Southwark for the attention they have paid to this business.

The following[9] is a statement recieved this Year respecting several of our Churches Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 4 Deacons 108 Members Ditcheling 1 Elder 4 Assistant Ministers 2 Deacons 149 Members—Berkhampsted 1 Elder 4 Deacons 120 Members—Chatham 1 Elders 3 Deacons 47 Members—Headcorn 4 Pastors 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 107 Members Canterbury 2 Elders 1 Assistant Minister 3 Deacons 129 Members Bessels Green 1 Elder 2 Deacons 47 Members Dover no Pastor 1 Minister no Deacons—Portsmouth 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister several Deacons 2 Members Dead 37 Members—Deal 1 Minister 4 Deacons 36 Members—Horley 2 Pastors 2 Assistant Ministers 2 Deacons 43 Members—Norwich 1 Pastor 2 Deacons 2 Inferior Officers 54 Members—Leicester Association in a prosperous Increasing state.[10]— 6. [Statistics.]

Some Churches that neglected a statement of their situation last Year have given us an account this, and we hope the rest of the Churches will imitate their Conduct.

*The Committee of the General Baptist Society for the Education of Young Men for the Ministry report— [Page 242.] 7th. [Education.]

That one Student Mr. Benjn. Austen has recieved some education under the Revd. Stepn. Freeman by means of the Institution—That Mr. Thos. Pine of Maidstone has been just admitted for education under the Revd. Jno. Evans. That they have just been informed of the following new subscribers from the Isle of Wight (viz)

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Thos. Cook	3.	3.	0
Mr. Wm. Cook	3.	3.	0
Mr. Wm. Mortimer	1.	1.	0
and			
From the Church of Portsmouth 3rd Collection	3.	17.	0

The Committee also begs leave again to recommend this usefull Institution to the patronage of the several Ministers and Churches in our Connection and hope that they will continue to support and promote a Society which has for its object the more successfull propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Subscriptions are recieved by Mr. J. Treacher the Treasurer No 43 Paternoster Row.

---

[9] The word, Churches, follows and is cancelled.

[10] It returned 3330 members in 32 churches.

8th. A Circular Letter drawn up by Mr. [11]Job[3] David of Frome[11] was read approved and ordered to be printed.

9th. [Deal.] Deal Church is[12] in want of a Minister and request any information that can be given them on the subject.

10th. [Portsmouth.] With respect to the Request of Portsmouth Church concerning[13] the Education Society. The Committee will at some future time give them the information desired—And with regard to the Administration of the Lords Supper under the particular sircumstances mentiond by our Portsmouth Friends —The Assembly are undecided in their Opinion But advise them maturely to consider the subject and to Act according to their own discretion.[14]

11. [Why do we dissent ?] That Bror. Sampn. Kingsford do draw up the Letter for next Year on the Reasons of our Descent from the Church of England.

Agreed That this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Witsun Week at the Meeting House in Worship Street Bishpgate Street in the Year 1798 That Bror. Jno. Kingsford of [Page 243.] Portsmouth do Preach and in *failure of him Bror. Benjn. Marten and that the Messengers Elders & Representatives do meet at seven OClock in the Morning

Publick service begin at Eleven and Done at Four.

Agreed that this Assembly Book be deposited in the Care of Bro. Brown.

Signd. by order of the Assembly[15]

D. Taylor.

[Page 244.] [1798, May 30.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wenesday the 30th day of May 1798 at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street near Bishopsgate street London.

---

[11] Originally, David.

[12] Originally, are.

[13] Originally, respecting.

[14] The beginning of trouble at Portsmouth. Kingsford and the senior Elder disagreed, like Stanger and Benge at Bessels Green, or Hobbs and Neale at Chatham.

[15] Originally, Association. Dan Taylor had been accustomed to preside annually over his Association for many years, and this year he signs here alone.

After seeking divine assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz—Brothers Boorman Dobel—S. Kingsford & Evershed Messengers.

[Officers.] Brother Benj. Dobel was Chosen Chairman. & Brothers Kingsford & Philpot.—

1st, The minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2ly. [No voting by visitors.] Resolved that our Brethren present of the General Baptist Connection who are not Members of the Assembly be admitted to assist though [1]not to vote[1] in the business of our Assembly for this day.[2]

3ly. [Trusts.] From the report of Brother S. Kingsford it appears that the situation of [1]Ber street Chapel Norwich[1] is such that nothing can be done particularly respecting it. Brother Sexton also reports that Wickham Meeting has been resigned to the Calvinists they being in possession both of the place & of the Writings This is to be ascribed to the neglect of appointing new Trustees and the term General Baptists being not specified in the Writings. It is therefore an additional instance of the necessity of paying an early & proper attention to these essential circumstances.

[Page 245.] 4ly. [America.] *Brothers Taylor & Evans informed the Assembly that an account has been recieved respecting the General Baptists in America—two places of Worship have been erected—one at Baltimore—the other at Deer Creek—For further particulars we refer to two Letters in the General Baptist Magazine for May 1798.—We recommend a continuance of this Correspondence of Brother Taylor & Evans with our friends in America.

5ly. [Baltimore case] Our General Baptist friends at Baltimore request the assistance of friends in England to enable them to defray the remainder of the expences attending the erection of their place of Worship. We recommend the Case to our Churches. Contributions will be thankfully recieved by Mr. Titford No. 2 Union Street Bishopsgate Street

---

[1] Underlined.

[2] The presence of the New Connexion spectators was apparently beginning to irritate. Dan Taylor had persuaded his Association to found a separate Academy, and early this year had received four students at Mile End. It was hard to understand his attitude, in view of the older Education scheme here, still flourishing.

6th. [Education fund.] The Committee of the General Baptist Society for the Education of young Men for the Ministry report that a short account of the Institution together with a list of the subscribers drawn up by the Secretary is printed & ready for circulation. It is therefore recommended that the Ministers present will convey a few copies of this account to their respective Churches & that Individuals of ability among the General Baptists will befriend so useful an Institution. Subscriptions are recieved by Mr. J. Treacher Treasurer No. 43 Paternoster Noster Row or by the Revd. J. Evans Secretary No. 23. Hoxton Square.

Brother J. Kingsford of Portsmouth preached a Sermon from Isaiah chap 62. verse 1.

[Page 246.] 7th. *The following is the State of our Chu.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£.	s.	d.
Whites Alley		Jno. Marsom	0.	10.	6
Horsley Down	Josh. Brown	Wm. Brent Saml. Brent	1.	1.	0
GlasshouseYard	Jno. Evens	Jno. Treacher Thos. Brown	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green					
Cranbrook	B. Dobel		1.	1.	0
Ditcheling		Jas. Brown Josh. Marten	0.	10.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Saxton	Ledbrook Young	0.	10.	6
Hythe		Jas. Pyall	0.	10.	6
Horsham	Wm. Evershed Jno. Dendy	Isaac Jeffery	0.	2.	6
Chatham	Josh. Hobbs		0.	2.	6
Headcorn	Jno. Boorman Robt. Pyall B. Marten		1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampsn. Kingsford	S. Gowland			
Brentford[3]		Jno. Barrett		10.	6
Smarden & Staplehurst				10.	6
Farnham		Jno. Ellis	0.	10.	6
Dover					
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth					
Newport Isle					
Deal		A Letter			
Milbourn					

---

[3] Coggleshall preceded this, but was cancelled.

Saffron Walden	Stepn. Philpott		
Ramsgate			
Horley	Thos. Turll		0. 10. 6
Burnham			
Norwich		A Letter	
Bourn & Aylesbury			
			8. 10. 0

[Page 247.]

*Lincolnsh Association		
Leicester	Do.	D. Taylor
Mitcham		
Bourn		
Spalding		

Recived with last Years Ballance £18. 11. 5 Paid this Year £11. 7. 0 Ballance £7. 4. 5.

7th. [Statistics.] The Following is the statement of our Churches as recieved this year

Headcorn 4 Elders 3 Deacons 102 Members—Chatham 1 Elder 2 Deacons 39 Members (sic) Deal 1 Minister 4 Deacons 39 Members—Canterbury 1 Elder 1 Assisting Minister 3 Deacons 129 Members—Horsham 2 Elders 2 Assistant Ministers 7 Deacons—Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 4 Deacons 102 Members—Hythe 1 Minister 20 Members —Ditcheling 4 Assistant Ministers 2 Deacons 147 Members —Norwich 1 Elder 1 Deacon 59 Members

8th.[4] [Deptford.] The Gentlemen appointed to Enquire into the state of Deptford Meeting house are not yet able to make a decisive report. We therefore request that our Brethren Mr. Joseph Brown & Mr. S. Kingsford should assist the Gentlemen already appointed for this purpose. They are requested to embrace an early opportunity for the purpose & to take every necessary step for the securing the place to the General Baptists.

9th. [Trade Registry] With respect to the information recieved respecting eligible situations for trade & commerce or for binding of apprentices in the Connection we thank Mr. T. Brown for his exertions & also Mr. T. Cooke of the Isle of Wight for his communications.

---

[4] Another 8th minute preceded, but was cancelled:—Some of our friends having misunderstood the design of the money annually collected at this Assembly, we beg leave to inform them that the sum is appropriated to defray the expenses of the Messengers—and also of printing the Assembly Letter and Proceedings.

[Page 248.] 10. [Fast Day.] *On a motion made by our Canterbury friends respecting the declining state of religion this Assembly recommend the first Sunday of July to be set apart as a day of fasting & publick prayer. We therefore earnestly recommend to our Churches that they would embrace that day to humble themselves before Almighty God.

11. [Messengers' expenses.] With respect to the Norwich case and some other Churches—we beg leave by way of answer to report an Article passed by our Assembly [5]and contained in the Minutes[5] in 1795. It was agreed that if a Messenger visit a Church by appointment from the Assembly or because he himself judge it advantageous his expences should be borne by the fund for that purpose. But if a Church immediately send for the messenger that Church shall pay his expences.

12. That Brother Sampson Kingsford draw up the letter next year on the respective duties of Ministers & People.

13. Brother J. Brown having resigned his office as Secretary[6]—we return him thanks for his long services.

14. We appoint Brother John Evans to succeed him.

[Page 249.] *Agreed that this Assembly do meet on Wednesday in Whitsun Week at the Meeting house in Worship Street in the year 1799 and that Brother Benjamin Marten do preach and in case of his failure Brother Twining of Trowbridge. And that the Messengers Elders & Representatives do meet at seven O Clock.

Public service begins at Eleven. and dine at two.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of J. Evans.[7]

Signed by order of the Assembly.

Benn. Dobel
Stephen Philpot
Sampn. Kingsford

[1799, May 15.] [Worship Street] The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday the 15th of May 1799 at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street Bishopsgate Street London

turn over[1]

---

[5] Interlined.

[6] A new term.

[7] The old formula.

[1] Brother Evans is more economical with the pages, and for the first time begins the minutes on a half-used page.

*After Seeking Divine assistance by Prayer the following Messengers, Elders and Representatives being present, viz Brothers Dobel Boorman, S. Kingsford Messengers. [Page 250.]

Brother Evans was chosen Chairman and Brothers Dobel & Philpot Moderators [Officers.]

Churches	Elders and Ministers	Representatives		[Members present.]
White's Alley	John Simpson		0. 10. 6	
Horsly-down	Jos. Brown		1. 1. 0	
Glass-house Yard	John Evans		1. 1. 0	
Bessels Green				
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobel	Wm. Buss	1. 1. 0	
Ditcherling		Wm. Davis		
Waldron				
Berkhamstead	Ed. Sexton[2]			
Hythe				
Horsham		J. Dancy Peter Caffin		
Chatham	Jos. Hobbs[2]		0. 2. 6	
Headcorn	John Boorman			
	Robt. Pyall	John Love	1. 1. 0	
Canterbury	Sampn. Kingsford	Stepn. Gowland		
Brentford	John Barratt		10. 6	
*Smarden &		Message by		[Page 251.]
Staplehurst	Jos. Seaton	Mr. Boorman	10. 6	
Farnham				
Dover				
Wingham				
Chichester				
Portsmouth	John Kingsford	A Letter	1. 1. 0	
Newport Isle Wight				
Deal		John Kingsford		
Milbourn	Thos. Barron			
Saffron Walden	Stepn. Philpot			
Ramsgate				
Horley	Thos. Turll		0. 10. 6	
Burnham				
Norwich	Mattw. Dexter			
Ford & Aylesbury				
Lincolnshire Association				

---

[2] These brethren took a rather disloyal step this year. They united with a new comer at the old Park Church to institute a meeting every six months on the pattern of the Conferences in Leicester and Lincoln of the New Connexion. The Park minister soon turned Calvinistic, and helped wreck the old cause, but the "London Conference" continued, and gradually made further inroads on the Assembly.

Leicestershire Association	Dan Taylor[2]
Mitcham	
Bourne	
Spalding	

Received with last Years Ballance £14. 13. 11—Paid this Year £8. 4. 0—Ballance £6. 9. 11.

1st. The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read and confirmed

2nd. [Lay preachers members of Assembly.] Resolved—That the Ministers of the Churches connected with the assembly, as well as Messengers Elders & Representatives be considered as members of the Assembly[3]

[Page 252.] 3rd. *Resolved—That our Brethren present of the General Baptist Connection, who are not Members of the Assembly be admitted to assist, though not to vote in the Business of our assembly this day

4th. [Norwich.] Dr. Hunt having requested by Mr. Dexter to know whether the assembly coincides with the Trustees in giving up to him Ber-street Chapel We advise that in consideration of Dr. Hunts great expences respecting that place and in fitting up another for Public Worship: that it be given up to him.

5th. [America.] We recommend a continuance of the Correspondence, of Brother Taylor & Evans with our General Baptist friends in America

Brother Twining of Trowbridge preached a Sermon from Colossians 2. 10 1st. Clause.

6. [Statistics.] We have received the following Statements from the undermentioned Churches

Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 assisting Ministers 4 deacons 99 members. Chatham 1 Elder 1 deacon 35 members. Headcorn 4 Elders 2 assistant Ministers 3 deacons 104 members. Canterbury 1 Elder 1 assistant Minister 3 deacons 117 members. [Page 253.] *Norwich 1 Elder 4 Deacons 59 Members. Deal 2 Ministers 4 deacons 39 members.

We are pleased to observe the attention which some of our churches have paid to the requests of this assembly; in consequence of which we have received an agreeable statement from some of them; but we should be highly gratified, and believe the interest would be advantaged, by circumstantial statements from all[4] our churches united in this assembly. It is likewise earnestly requested that the different associations, of Leicestershire, & Lincolnshire, would transmit to this Assembly, an account of the state of the Churches in those connections.

---

[3] A novelty, soon to be made a standing order.

[4] Underlined.

7. [A third student] The Committee of the General Baptist Society for the Education of young men for the Ministry report that the short printed account of the Institution presented to the assembly last year has been circulated among the Churches; They are also happy to add that in consequence of this circulation Mr. Thos. Sadler recommended by the Church at ditcherling has been received upon the Society and is now under the care of the Rev: John Evans. This is the third[4] Young Person that has enjoyed assistance from the Society in the way of Education, and it is believed that by the advantages bestowed on young candidates for the Christian ministry *our Churches will in time be Essentially benefitted. [Page 254.] The want of ministers in our connection has long been matter of complaint we trust it will be gradually remedied by this Institution. Our friends therefore we hope will chearfully come forward for its Support, and Join heart and hand in a measure which seems the only effectual means of supplying our destitute Churches. Subscriptions are received by the treasurer Mr. John Treacher No. 43 Paternoster-row, or by the Rev: John Evans Secretary No 23 Hoxton Square.

8th. [Deptford.] Resolved that Mr. Jos. Brown Mr. S. Kingsford and Mr. J. Evans wait Immediately on Mrs. Newland, on the Subject of deptford meeting House as mentioned in the 8th article in last years Proceedings.

9th. [Messengers' Fund.] The Church at Cranbrook wishing that the Churches may be informed respecting the purpose to which the money contributed to the Messengers Fund is applied, we inform the Churches in General, that part of the Money received is paid for the printing of the proceedings of the General Assembly and the residue to defray the expences of the Messengers in visiting the Churches. It is therefore requested *that all the churches will exert themselves to assist the [Page 255.] said Fund. It is nevertheless agreed, if in extraordinary cases any Church should send for a Messenger to assist them such Church shall pay its[5] expences.

10ly. The Letter drawn up by Brother S. Kingsford on the respective duties of Ministers and people was read approved and ordered to be printed.

---

[5] Originally, their.

11ly. That Brother Twining draw up an address to young people on the Necessity and Importance of Religion as the subject of the circular Letter for the ensuing Year

12thly. Agreed that this assembly meet[6] on Wednesday in Whitsun Week, at the meeting House, in Worship Street, in the year 1800 and that Brother Benjn. Martin (sic) Preach and in case of his failure Brother S. Kingsford. and that the Messengers Elders and Representatives do meet at 7 o Clock

Public service begins at Eleven, & dine at two

Agreed that the assembly Book be deposited in the care of J. Evans[7]

Jno. Evans
Stephen Philpot
Benjn. Dobel

[Page 256.]
[1800, June 4.]
[Worship Street]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Wednesday June 4th[1] '1800—at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street London.

After seeking divine assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz Brothers Dobel & Kingsford Messengers.

[Officers.] Brother Dan Taylor was chosen Chairman & Brothers Dobel & Kingsford Moderators.—

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders and Ministers	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	John Simpson	Jno. Marsom	1.	1.	0
Horsly-down					
Glass HouseYard	John Evans	Mr. Treacher & Mr. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green					
Cranbrook	Benjamin Dobel	Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling					
Waldron					
Berkhamstead	Edward Sexton				
Hythe					
Horsham		John Dancy			
Chatham	Edwd. Hobbs		0.	2.	6
Headcorn	Robert Pyall				
	B. Martin	Jno. Igglesden	1.	1.	0

---

[6] Originally, do.

[7] The minutes this year abound in erasures.

[1] Originally, 15th of May.

Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford	Wm. Kingsford	1.	1.	0	
Brentford		Mr. John Barrett	0.	10.	6	
Smarden & Staplehurst	Josh. Seaton					
Farnham						
Dover		B. Martin				
Wingham						
Chichester						
Portsmouth		a Letter	1.	1.	0	
Newport Isle of Wight						
Deal	Jno. Kingsford		1.	1.	0	
*Milbourn						[Page 257.]
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot					
Ramsgate						
Horley						
Burnham						
Norwich						
Ford & Aylesbury						
Lincolnshire Association						
Leicestershire Do.						
Mitcham						
Bourne						
Spalding						
Deptford						

1. The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2. Resolved That the Ministers of the Churches connected with the Assembly as well as Messengers Elders & Representatives be considered as Members of the Assembly.

3. Resolved That our Brethren present of the General Baptist Connection who are not Members of the Assembly be admitted to assist though not [2]to vote in the Business of our Assembly this day.

4. We recommend a Continuance of the Correspondence of Brothers Taylor Evans & S. Kingsford with our General Baptists in America.

5. [Norwich.] In consequence of the application of Dr. Hunt last year relative to the re-conveyance of the Lands *settled for the [Page 258.] support of Ber-street Chapel Brother Taylor & S. Kingsford by appointment of the Assembly having corresponded with some of the Trustees on the business we find that the Deed being enrolled in Chancery for the settlement of these Lands

---

[2] Underlined.

they must remain for the purpose specified in the deeds. Some of the Trustees also we find will not consent to sign over the Trust to any other purpose than that originally designed but they say that whenever a new Trust is fixt upon they are ready to sign over so that the design of the Trust or original deed may be perpetuated. We have to add the Assembly wish to know the nature & design of the Deed & Trust & appoint Brother Dan Taylor & S. Kingsford to make enquiry on the subject.

6. [Statistics.] We have recieved the following statement from the undermentioned Churches.

Dover 1 Assistant Elder 1 Deacon 1 Nominal Deacon —standing Members 82—received by Letter 1 By Baptism 5 —lost 1 by Death Increase 5.—Chatham 41 including 1 Pastor 1 ordained & 4 unordained Deacons. Cranbrook 1 Elder 3 Deacons 88 Members. Canterbury 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 3 Deacons—110 Members. Deal [3]1 Elder[3] 1 Assistant Minister 4 Deacons & 42 Members and Portsmouth Church have had 9 Members added to them in the course of the past year.—Headcorn also has 4 Elders 3 Deacons & 2 Assistant Ministers. They have 101 Members. We again repeat our request—that all[2] the Churches would pay attention to this subject.

[Page 259.] 7. [Two students educating.] *The Committee of the General Baptist Education Society report that they have at this time two[2] Students on the Foundation [2]Mr. Thomas Sadler[2] from Ditchling & [2]Mr. William Moon[2] from Dover both under the care of the Revd. John Evans A.M. They have been obliged to refuse applications not esteeming the Funds adequate to defray the Expences. The reciepts since its first Establishment in 1794 amount to £158. 12. 0—the Expenditure £123. 3. 7 and the Balance now in the hands of the Treasurer is only £35. 8. 5. They beg leave to recommend the Society to the protection of the Assembly & think it might be promoted by appointing Friends in different parts of the Country to recieve subscriptions. It is hoped that an Institution so favourable to the general Interests of the Body will meet every possible encouragement. Many respectable Individuals have befriended it & many others we trust will cherefully come forward to aid it by their contributions. Subscriptions recieved by Mr. John Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow & the Revd. J. Evans No. 7 Pullins Row Islington.

---

[3] Inserted.

8. [General Baptist Education Society.] The Assembly have appointed the following Gentlemen [4]to procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer[4] for the [2]General Baptist Society[2] instituted in 1794—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury—Mr. B. Martin Dover—Mr. J. Kingsford Deal—Mr. B. Dobel Cranbrook—Mr. J. Igglesden Headcorn—Mr. Snelgrove Lewes—Mr. J. Dendy Horsham—Mr. S. Philpot Saffron Walden—Mr. Hobbs Chatham—Mr. Simpson London—Mr. Mills Portsmouth—Mr. T. Cook Isle of Wight—Dr. Toulmin Taunton Mr. Job David Frome & Mr. J. Deacon Leicester.

9. [Deptford opened.] Respecting the Church at Deptford it is reported that the Place has been opened for Public Worship & it continues to be conducted there twice every Sabbath Day. A favourable prospect therefore may be indulged respecting the revival of that place which must be a pleasing circumstance to every Individual who wishes well to the General Baptist Interest.[5]

---

[4] Originally, Agents.

[5] The church at Deptford had not been heard of at the Assembly since 1692 till the enquiry of 1797. It had been represented at the General Association in 1697, William Alcock and William Woodham being Elders, but had withdrawn in 1699, when Alcock seems to have passed away. In 1716 a subscription of £10 was given to rebuild the Baptistery at Horsleydown, from "Adam Holden for the Church at Deptford," and when the church nominated a trustee, it put forward John Yeomans, who had been at the Association of 1699. This church must not be confounded with that at Cherry Gardens, where Joseph Matthews was pastor, for he is known 1715-1731. Nor must it be confounded with an obscure cause served by John Biddle 1723-1749, for he was helped from the Particular Baptist Fund. But Ivimey, whose blunders and bad reasoning at IV. 231 need not invalidate every statement he makes, mentions in Deptford a Mr. Beamont in 1729, "not sound in the faith," and a Mr. Richard Barron in 1749, who, as we know, went to Paul's Alley five years later; these two may conceivably be successors to Yeomans. The meeting-house is mentioned in 1739 by Maitland, under the title "Rotherhithe"; it really stood in Church Lane. The minutes of 1797 imply that the building was then disused and likely to be lost. This agrees with the fact that in the records of the Kentish Association there was no representative or letter between 1768 and 1779, when apparently the very name was dropped. We may note in advance that the young student, William Moon, was set to resuscitate a cause, that the old Horslydown Church recrossed the river to share the building, that on the death of the aged Joseph Brown, the two churches united in 1804, under Moon—requesting that a record be made in the Kentish book—and that Moon died shortly before the Kentish meetings of 1824. The building still stands in Church Street, Deptford, where the united churches still worship.

[Page 260.] 10. *We recommend the Leicestershire & Lincolnshire Associations to send us the Minutes of thier Proceedings to the ensuing Assembly.

11. The Churches at Horsham & Berkhamstead are each of them in want of a Minister.

12. [Three Messengers wanted.] Having lost two of our Messengers by Death & another being much advanced in years we think it necessary that an addition of Three[2] be made to the present Number & recommend to each Church to nominate three[2] for that office. The Persons now recommended for choice are our Brothers J. Evans R. Pyall S. Philpot B. Martin & J. Dendy. Other Individuals may be proposed as the Churches think proper.

13. [Chatham lease.] The Church at Chatham having engaged with the Governers of the Chest of Chatham, to renew the Lease of their Meeting house for the term of 99 Years, and some considerable repairs being necessary the whole expence will amount to about 300£. They have therefore requested the assistance of this Assembly believing the case worthy attention we recommend it to the Churches wishing them to encourage the same.

14. [Chesham.] The Church of Chesham having requested to be visited by a Messenger or by Brother D. Taylor it not being convenient for the Messengers Brother Taylor was appointed by the Assembly to visit that Church.

15. [Wales.] [Page 261.] The Assembly recommends that the Facts contained in the Letter from *Wales[6] be subjoined to those Proceedings—and the Cases are warmly recommended to our Churches who we trust will make Collections which are to be transmitted[7] as soon as possible to the Revd. J. Evans No. 7 Pullin's Row Islington.

17.[8] That Brother Martin draw up the Letter for the ensuing Year on the Importance of Church Fellow Ship.

18. Agreed that this Assembly meet on Tuesday [3]instead of Wednesday[3] in ye Whitsunweek at the Meeting House in Worship Street in the year 1801—that Brother S. Kingsford preach & in case of failure Mr. J. Kingsford of Deal—and that the Messengers Elders & Representatives do meet at seven O Clock—Public Service begins at Eleven O Clock & dine at Two.

---

[6] The words, which were addressed to Mr. J. Evans, follow and are cancelled. Job David and Evans were introducing a new set of adherents.

[7] The words, to the Rev., follow and are cancelled.

[8] For 16, see below the signatures.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of Mr. J. Evans.

Signed by order of the Assembly.

D. Taylor
B. Dobel
Sampn. Kingsford

Brother Evans having drawn up the Letter for this Year instead of the Revd. Mr. Twining deceased—it was ordered to be printed. 16.

Brother Marten of Dover preached a sermon from Eph. 4. 8. .

This page was left blank, obviously to insert the letter from Wales referred to in minute 15. [Page 262.]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Tuesday May 26th 1801—at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street London. [Page 263.] [1801, May 26.] [Worship Street]

After seeking divine assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present—Brothers Dobel and S. Kingsford Messengers.

Brother Philpot was chosen Chairman & Bro. Dobel & Marten Moderators. [Officers.]

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White Alley	John Simpson		1.	1.	0
Horsly down	Joseph Brown	Wm. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glass HouseYard	John Evans	Mr. Treacher & Mr. Titford	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green					
Cranbrook	B. Dobel	Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling		Joseph Marten			
Waldron					
Berkhamstead	Edward Sexton		1.	1.	0
Hythe					
Horsham	Mr. Jno. Dendy	Peter Caffin & John Dancey			
Chatham					
Headcorn	R. Pyall		1.	1.	0
Canterbury	S. Kingsford		0.	10.	6
Brentford					
Smarden & Staplehurst	Joseph Seaton		0.	10.	6
Farnham		Jno. Ellis		10.	6

Dover	B. Marten		0. 10. 6
Wingham			
Chichester		Letter	
Portsmouth		Letter	1. 1. 0
Newport Isle of Wight			
Deal	J. Kingsford		0. 10. 6
Milbourn			
Saffron Walden	S. Philpot		0. 7. .
Ramsgate			
Horley		Letter	
Burnham			
Norwich		Letter	
Ford & Aylesbury			
Lincolnshire Associatn.			
Liecestershire Do.			
Mitcham			
Bourne			
Spalding			
Deptford		Saml. Brent	
		Wm. Moon	
		Robt. Camppin	1. 1. 0

[Page 264.] 1. *The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2. [Standing Orders.] Resolved that the 2nd & 3rd articles of the Proceedings for the year 1800. be considered as [1]standing rules[1] of the Assembly. These are that the Ministers of the Churches connected with the Assembly as well as Messengers Elders & Representatives be considered as Members of the Assembly —and that our Brethren present of the General Baptist Connection who are not Members of the Assembly be admitted to assist though not to vote in the Business of the Day.[2]

3. We recommend a continuance of the Correspondence of Brothers Taylor[1] Evans[1] &. S. Kingsford[1] with our General [3]Baptist Friends[3] in America.[1] Applications have been made —but no specific information has been yet obtained.

4. [Norwich]. With respect to the circumstance of Ber Street Chapel Norwich Inquiry has been made as appointed & Mr. Proud has liberally said that he is ready to convey the Chapel & Lands to such trust as the General Assembly shall[4] appoint. But Mr. Proud having now favoured us with a Copy of the

---

[1] Underlined.

[2] Originally, Assembly.

[3] Originally, Baptists.

[4] Inserted.

Trust it appears that during the Term of Mr. Hunt's Life he has the sole power of adding to the present remaining trust so that the number 12 be preserved. On his death the society have the power to chose additional Trustees or when the Trust are reduced to Three then those three have a right to chose a new Trust that all the purposes of the Deed may be perpetuated—the premises being preserved & the profits appropriated to the support of a General Baptist Society in that place. We therefore conclude the Assembly can[4] do nothing in the[5] business at present unless they agree with Mr. Hunt. We therefore appoint our Brethren D. Taylor & S. Kingsford to write to Mr. Hunt on that subject & to make thier report to the next Assembly.

[Page 265.]

5. [Statistics.]

*We have recieved the following statement of the Churches—White's Alley 1 Elder 1 Assistant Minister 2 Deacons making in the whole 11 Members—Horsly Down 1 Elder 1 Deacon 12 Members—Glass House Yard 1 Elder 4 Deacons Members not ascertained—Bessels Green 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 1 Deacon about 40 Members—Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 96 Members —Ditchling 3 Ministers 2 Deacons about 80 Members—Horsham 1 Elder 3 Assistant Ministers 5 Deacons 240 Members — Headcorn 3 Elders 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 96 Members—Canterbury 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 3 Deacons 109 Members—Smarden & Staplehurst 2 Elders 3 Assistant Ministers 5 Deacons about 120 Members Farnham 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 1 Deacon about 35 Members—Dover 1 Elder 1 Deacon 83 Members—Chichester about 40 Members—Portsmouth 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 1 Deacon about 50 Members—Deal 1 Elder 1 Assistant Minister 3 Deacons about 40 Members—Milbourne 1 Pastor 4 Members—Saffron Walden 1 Pastor 1 Deacon about 42 Members—Horley 2 Elders 2 Assistant Ministers 1 Deacon 39 Members—Norwich 1 Elder 4 Deacons 60 Members—Leicestershire Association 3403 Members—Deptford 1 Minister—17 Members.[6]

We are glad to find that our advice on this subject last year has been attended to—& we recommend that the

---

[5] Originally, that.

[6] The strongest old church was Horsham, with 240 members. After repeated requests, the "Leicestershire Association" sent its figures, 3403 members—for 1800, with 38 churches.

Churches who have [1]this year[1] neglected it—will for the future pay it a proper attention.

6. [7]Brother Sampson Kingsford preached a Sermon from Matt. 11. 29. [1]Learn of me.[1]

7. [A student settled at Horsham.] The Treasurer of the General Baptist[8] Society for educating Young Men for the Ministry established by this Assembly in 1794 reports that Mr. Thomas Sadler has recieved two years Education from it & is now settled at Horsham *that Mr. Wm. Moon still remains on the Society [Page 266.] tho[9] his time expires at Midsummer. The Committee have the pleasure to say from the encouragement they have recieved they hope always[1] [4]to have two students[4] upon the Foundation. It is earnestly to be wished that the Society will continue to enjoy the liberal countenance of Individuals who wish well to the prosperity & respectability of the General Baptist Interest. The Committee return thanks to the Portsmouth Farnham [4]Saffron Walden Dover & Headcorn[4] Churches—as well as [4]to the[4] several respectable[4] Indivuals who have befriended the Institution by thier contributions. Subscriptions are recieved by Mr. John Treacher Treasurer[4] No. 43 Paternosterow London & the Revd. John Evans A.M. Secretary. Pullins Row Islington.

[Collectors for the Education Society.] The Assembly have appointed the following Gentlemen to receive[4] procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer for the General Baptist Education Society instituted in 1794 —Revd. S. Kingsford of Canterbury—B. Marten Dover—J. Kingsford Deal—B. Dobel Cranbrook—Robert Pyall Headcorn[10]—Wm. Davies Ditchling—H. Brown Lewes—J. Dendy Horsham—S. Philpot Saffron Walden—J. Simpson London —J. Mills Portsmouth—T. Cook Isle of Wight—Dr. Toulmin Taunton—Job David Frome—& J. Deacon Leicester. It is sincerely hoped that these gentlemen will exert themselves with zeal & unremitting activity.

8. [Deptford re-opened.] Respecting the Church at Deptford it is reported that the Meeting has been considerably repaired & fitted up for public Worship. It was opened after the repairs on the 17th of May by the Revd. John Evans A.M. & the sermon preached

---

[7] This minute was first inserted before the second paragraph of minute 5.

[8] The word, Education, follows and is cancelled.

[9] The word, but, is added.

[10] The original entry was, J. Igglesden, Headcorn, but this was cancelled at once.

on the occasion will be published. The thanks of the Assembly are returned to John & Saml. Brent Esqrs. for their zeal & activity in this business—by which means a fair prospect is opened of rendering this place once more *useful & respectable to the General Baptists. [Page 267.]

9. [Messengers.] On the subject of a choice of Messengers the three now chosen in addition to those already in office are Brothers Evans Dendy & B. Marten & they are desired[11] to accept the office & thier respective Churches be requested to agree thereto & that Brothers Pyall S. Kingsford & B. Dobel be appointed to wait on the Persons & the Churches with whom they are connected on the business.

10. [Shall a mixed communion church be admitted ?] Resolved that the application of the Church under the care [4]of Mr. Vidler[4] to become Members of the Assembly—be considered by the Churches in our Connection & that they make a report to the next Assembly. Mr. [Vidler's][12] Church consisting of above 225 Members baptised by immersion admits to Communion about 20 Paedobaptists as regular Members of the said Church.

11. [Chatham funds.] Certain calumnies having been circulated respecting the appropriation of the Church Money at Chatham by Mr. Benjamin Chilley Treasurer—three of our Brethren have enquired into the matter & report that these false & scandalous calumnies are wholly without foundation. In which the Assembly most perfectly acquiesces.

12. [Help to Welsh churches.] In consequence of the recommendation of the Welch Baptists to our Churches by the Assembly last year—the following sums were recieved & transmitted them by the Revd. J. Evans—20 Guineas from Wm. Kingsford Esqr.—5 Guineas Revd. S. Kingsford—2 Guineas a friend—Stephen Lowdell Esqr. 5 Guineas—Mr. Meadmore 5 Guineas—Church at Portsmouth £3. 4. 6—Church at Headcorn £8—& s10. 6 from the Revd. J. Cornish Devon—In all £50. 12. 0. The reciept of the Money was very gratefully acknowledged in a Letter to J. Evans from the Revd. Joshua Mathias *Carmarthen who declares that this pecuniary aid did "more good to the cause than words can express." It is therefore to be hoped that our Churches will take this case into consideration this year. Owing to the severe pressure of the times this application just recieved [4]from the Revd. Wm. [Page 268.]

---

[11] Originally, requested.

[12] A blank stands in the text.

Richards[4] abounds with cases of distress.[14] With pleasure we learn that the General Baptist Fund have voted £10 for thier use & that other efforts are now[4] making for thier relief. Thier situation is again warmly recommended by us to our Friends [13]whom we[13] hope will come forward with thier accustomed liberality.

13. [Old fund used for Wales.] It being proposed to the Assembly whether some Money in ye hands of ye Revd. S. Kingsford collected by Mr. Porter some years ago be appropriated to the assistance of the Welsh General Baptists we agree thereto & that Brothers Wm. & S. Kingsford send it either this year or the next as they judge best.

14. [Circular Letter.] Brother Marten produced his Letter on the [1]Importance of Church Fellowship[1]—it was read—approved & ordered to be printed.

15. Resolved that the Letter next Year be on [1]the Grounds & Duties of the Messenger's Office[1]—& that it be drawn up by our Brother Benj. Dobel.

16. [The New Connexion.] That the Assembly are of opinion that the term [1]Free Grace General[4] Baptists[1] as applied [1]exclusively to a part of the Connection[1] is injurious to the Peace & Harmony of the [15]General Body & therefore ought[1] to be laid aside.[16]

---

[13] Originally, who.

[14] William Richards was originally a member of Salem, in Carmarthenshire, who had settled at Lynn in Norfolk. In 1690, Grantham and Marham were concerned with a General Baptist church here, but heavy fines had nearly broken it up. About 1744, another Baptist church was founded by hyper Calvinists, seceding from the Presbyterians. They reorganised in 1760, built in 1774, and called Richards in 1777. Joshua Thomas and John Rippon returned him as a Particular Baptist from 1789 to 1798, and there is plenty of evidence that the church was hyper-Calvinistic till 1818, though it did not belong to the Norfolk and Suffolk Association of Particular Baptist churches in 1802, Rippon's correspondent admitting that there were some " old churches who do not join in Association." It is rather more than singular that Richards asked help from the General Baptists. The explanation is probably to be found in Joshua Thomas' History of the Welsh Baptists, under date 1790:—"There has of late years been some difference in the expressions of certain persons upon the confessedly deep and mysterious doctrine of the adorable Trinity."

[15] Originally, Churches amongst us, the change being made at once.

[16] The New Connexion did, in 1770, adopt this very style, " Free Grace General Baptists." The Assembly now challenged this, as implying that the remaining churches did not insist upon Free Grace. At the present day the Assembly formally acknowledges in its Year-Book, that churches do at pleasure add other descriptive phrases.

[Page 269.] 17. [Ministers wanted.] *That Berkhamstead Church is in want of an Assistant Minister. And Deal Church also wants a Minister to preach occasionally there & in the adjacent villages.

18. [Horsleydown removals.] The Church under the care of thier Pastor Joseph Brown having made several removals wishes to have them recorded in the Proceedings of the present Assembly—we accordingly make that insertion.

" The removals have been as follow—viz.—After being[4] eighty[1] years & upwards at Horsly-down we removed—June 9th 1771 to Pinner's Hall whence the Lease being expired we removed in Jany. 1779 to Dr. Savage's—our lease also being there expired we then came [4]June 24—1781[4] to Worship Street a new Meeting having been built there—and lastly we removed on March 25th 1801 to Deptford most of our Members residing in its vicinity."

19. [Vidler.] [17]Agreed that Mr. Wm. Vidler & Mr. A. Bennet be admitted Members of the Assembly.[18]

20. That this Assembly meet on Tuesday in Whitsun week instead of Wednesday at the Meeting House in Worship Street in the year 1802—that Brother J. Kingsford of Deal preach[4] and in case of failure Brother John Deacon of Leicester & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives meet at seven O Clock.

Public Service begins at Eleven[1] O Clock & dine at Two[1]

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of Mr. J. Evans.

Signed by order of the Assembly.

Stephen Philpot Chairman
Benjn. Dobel } Moderators
B. Marten }

---

[17] Originally, Agreed that this Assembly, the change being made at once.

[18] For an account of the church at Parliament Court and Mr. Vidler, see the Transactions of the Baptist Historical Society, Vol. I. number 1. The church had been gathered by Elhanan Winchester, in 1787, on the basis of Universal Restoration. In 1794 it passed under the care of William Vidler, a Particular Baptist from Battle, who had been expelled from the Kent and Sussex Association for adopting these views. Under his care most of the members became Baptists, as the tenth minute here shows. But by 1791 Vilder had been discussing Calvinism with Andrew Fuller, evincing a tread towards Socinianism. In this year he undertook a propaganda tour in the Fens and Lincolnshire, and the influence of Richard Wright at a new Wisbech General Baptist Church decided him to avow himself Unitarian. This evolution nearly wrecked his church, but did not hinder him and his church being admitted to the Assembly.

[Page 270.] [1802, June 8.] [Worship Street] *Proceedings of the General Assembly held on Tuesday [1]June 8th 1802 at the Baptist Meeting House in Worship Street near Bishopsgate Street London.—

[Page 271.] *After seeking divine Assistance by Prayer the following Messengers Elders & Representatives being present viz—

[Officers.] Brothers Dobel & S. Kingsford Messengers—
Brother S. Kingsford was chosen Chairman
& Brothers Taylor & Dobel Moderators.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	John Simpson	John Marsom Abraham Fenton John Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsely-down	Joseph Brown	Wm. Brent James Brent & Samuel Brent	1.	1.	0
GlasshouseYard	John Evans	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford & T. Buck	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green		Jno. Iggelsden & David Colgate			
Cranbrook	Benj. Dobel	Wm. Buss & Joseph Dobel	1.	1.	0
Dicherling		Richd. Snelgrove & James Brown			
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edward Sexton		0.	10.	6
Hythe					
Horsham			1.	1.	0
Chatham		Benj. Chilley & Thos. Thompson		10.	6
Headcorn	Robert Pyall	Stephen Lane	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford	Wm. Kingsford & Coppr. Chapman			
Smarden & Staplehurst	Joseph Sexton		0.	10.	6
Brentford		Joseph Barrett		10.	6
Farnham		John Ellis		10.	6
Dover	Benj. Martin	Jno. & James Philpot Jno. Fuller Sampn. Pearce & Wm. Kingsford		10.	6
Wingham					
Chichester		A Letter			

---

[1] Originally, May 26th, altered at once.

Portsmouth	Jno. Mills	Jno. Brent Blackheath Jno. & Joseph Bont of Portsmouth	1. 1. 0
Newport Isle of Wight	Robert Aspland	Thos. Cooke & Robt. Harris	15. 0
Deal	Jno. Kingsford	Hamus Josephus Kingsford[2]	10. 6
			10. 15. 6
Milbourn			
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot		
Ramsgate			
Horley		Letter	
Burnham			
Norwich	Matthew Dexter		
Ford & Aylesbury			
	*Bro. Fowd.		10. 15. 6 [Page 272.]
Lincolnshire Association		Letter	
Leicestershire Do.	Dan Taylor		
Bourne[3]			
Spalding			
Deptford	Thos. Bennett Robt. Campin	Represent Joseph Weald James Blake	10. 6
			£11. 6. 0
Tunbridge Wells		a Letter	
Lewes	Richard Snelgrove		

The Minutes of the last Proceedings were read. 1.

[4]The second Article was read when some objections 2. occurring to it in its present shape the Assembly referring to former resolutions on this business came to the following determinations—

1. that in the nature of the thing none aught to vote[5] [Voting power,] but Messengers Pastors & Representatives 2. that no Church

---

[2] Perhaps the first instance at the Assembly of a man with two Christian names.

[3] Before this name appears, Mitcham, cancelled at once. The removal of Marsom and Grice to join White's Alley had practically extinguished this church.

[4] The original beginning was, Resolved that; this was cancelled at once.

[5] Underlined.

in cases referred to them by the Assembly can have [6]more than one voice—&3ly that Ministers & others being only members for the day tho they may give council have no vote.

3. [Baltimore.] Relative to the correspondence of Brothers Taylor Evans [7]& S. Kingsford[7] with the General Baptists in the America Brother Taylor reports that at Fell's point near Baltimore several Baptisms have lately taken place by Mr. Healy Pastor of a Congregation of General Baptists there—They have recieved no other[7] communication of note—but[7] request the above Brethren to continue thier correspondence

4. [Norwich.] As to ye[7] circumstances of Ber street Chapel Norwich Brother Kingsford (who together with Mr. Taylor was appointed to write to Mr. Hunt reports that he wrote but recieved no answer to the Letter. Brother Dexter however being present made some communications on the subject—it appears to us that nothing effectual can be done at present but we beg our Brethren Taylor & S. Kingsford to bear this case in thier [8]mind.

[Page 273.] 5. [Statistics.] *White's Alley 1 Pastor[9] 1 Assistant Minister 2 Deacons making in the whole 12 Members—Horsely Down 1 Pastor[9] 2 ordained Deacons 12 Members—Glass House Yard 1 Pastor[9] 4 Deacons Members not ascertained—Bessels Green 2 Ministers 1 Deacon 42 Members—Cranbrook 1 Pastor[9] 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 113 Members—Headcorn 3 Pastors[9] 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons Members 95—Canterbury 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 2 Deacons 107 Members—Dover 1 Pastor[9] 4 Deacons 4 Brethren exercising Ministry total number 102—Norwich 1 Pastor[9] 4 Deacons 60 Members—Deptford 1 Minister 64 Members—Portsmouth 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 1 Deacon Members not ascertained —Leicestershire Associatn. 3594 Members—Saffron Walden 1. Pastor 1 Deacon about 42 Members—Deal 1 Pastor 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons & about 40[7] Members—Ditchling 3 Ministers 2 Deacons about 80 Members—Horley 2 Pastors 2 Assistant Ministers 1 Deacon 38 Members—Newport Isle of Wight 1 Pastor 2 Deacons & about 40 Members —Chichester about 42 Members. We hope next year to recieve a still larger communication.

---

[6] The word, but, preceded and was cancelled.

[7] Inserted.

[8] Originally, case.

[9] Originally, Elder (or Elders). The change was apparently made before the minute was completed. In 1801 the term varied at different churches.

Brother John Kingsford of Deal preached a Sermon 6. from Matt. 12. 28. 29. 30—[5]Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven—the same is my brother & sister & mother.[5]

The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society 7. [Education Society.] for educating Young Men for the Ministry established by this Assembly in the year 1794 reports that Mr.[7] Wm. Moon who recieved two year's Education on the Society which expired at Midsummer last is now settled at Deptford—In September last Mr. William *Thomas & Mr. David Thomas young [Page 274.] men but both Ministers of General Baptist Churches in Wales were admitted on the Society—the former being taken ill at Christmas returned to his native Country—the latter still remains in a course of Education and is making considerable improvement. Having had two on the Society therefore our finances call for augmentation. For the subscriptions of private Individuals & the Collections recieved from several Churches we feel truly grateful & hope every countenance will be given to an Institution which cannot fail of being highly serviceable to the General Baptist Cause. Subscriptions are recieved by Mr. Jno. Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow London & John Evans A.M. Secretary Pullin's Row Islington.—As it has been the desire of our Friends in the Country to know something of the course of Education pursued—it may be observed that the principal object of these instructions is in the first place to teach them to speak & write the English [Curriculum.] Language with propriety—an acquisition of high importance to Ministers whose grand employ is to address thier fellow creatures in a public capacity. At the same time the Young Men are made acquainted with sacred[5] & Profane[5] History—and indeed are put into a line of Reading which may serve most effectually to the illustration of the [5]Holy Scriptures.[5] Sometimes they are enabled to read the Greek Testament—but the general traits of the course of Education for so short a period are to fit[10] the young Men for a [5]useful & respectable Christian Ministry.[5] The friends of the General Baptist Interest[11] will not be backward therefore to patronise an Institution so well calculated to promote the cause of [5]God & Truth[5] amongst them.

*The Assembly have appointed the following gentlemen to [Page 275.] [Collectors.] recieve procure & transmit Subscriptions to the Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society instituted in 1794—Revd. S. Kingsford Canterbury—B. Marten Dover—J. Kingsford Deal—B. Dobel Cranbrook—Robert Pyall Headcorn—William Davies Dicherling—H. Brown Lewes—J. Dendy Horsham—S. Philpot Saffron Walden—I. Mills Portsmouth T. Cook Isle of Wight—Dr. Joshua Toulmin Taunton—Job David Frome—& J. Deacon Leicester—It is sincerely hoped that these Gentlemen will exert themselves with zeal and unremitting activity. We thank them for thier former exertions.

---

[10] Altered at once from, render.

[11] Altered at once from, cause.

8. [Deptford.] Respecting the Church at Deptford we are happy to say that it is in a very flourishing state—& on Wednesday the 9th Mr. William Moon is to be ordained over that Church—may they enjoy every kind of prosperity!

9. [Messengers.] On the subject of a choice of Messengers Brothers Evans & B. Marten have accepted the office & thier respective Churches have agreed thereto but Brother Dendy having absolutely refused to accept it we choose[12] Brother Pyall to that office in conjunction with the two others provided the Headcorn Church object not to it.

10. [Parliament Const.] The case of Mr. Vidler's Church consisting of 250 Members baptised by immersion & admitting to Communion 20 Paedobaptists as regular Members of the said Church having been referred to the several Churches—a vote in the affirmative that it[13] [Page 276.] *should be admitted member of the Assembly was given by a large majority of thirteen Churches to five.[14]

---

[12] Altered at once from, appoint.

[13] Altered at once from, they.

[14] The importance of this decision will be apparent in the proceedings of next year. It may be viewed from many sides. First, the point was raised, apparently for the first time, whether a church could be admitted which comprised any unbaptized members; and the admission was marked by an express reservation on this point. Second, the Assembly recognized the importance of the occasion, and appealed to the churches themselves, instead of voting by representatives: of such referendums there are subsequent cases. Third, a unanimous vote was not required; but afterwards we find it mentioned when there was no opposition. Fourth, the New Connexion here missed its opportunity: it had 41 churches, and had they chosen to vote, their votes would apparently have been counted. As it was, only eighteen churches replied to the query, though twenty-six were represented at this Assembly by letters or representatives. Fifth, this church was avowedly and primarily a Universalist church, with no apparent interest in the Six-Principles; its belief in universal salvation included of course the leading tenet of the Assembly,

Resolved that no unbaptised[5] Member shall be allowed to vote at the Assembly. 11.

[15]With respect to the [5]Welsh Baptists Mr. Richards[5] of Lynn being present we were assured by him that our friends there are duly grateful for the sums distributed among them—and that they stand in still further aid of our liberality. The money voted them last year not being quite exhausted will be carried down by Mr. Richards to Wales —also the twenty[5] shillings given (by the Farnham Church. All other contributions for the same purpose will be highly acceptable—and we recommend thier case to our Churches. The Assembly unanimously voted thier thanks to Brother Richards for his laudable exertions in the Principality. 12. [Wales.]

Resolved to recommend the [7]case of the[7] Chatham Friends who are rebuilding thier Church at the expence of upwards of £600—they have themselves subscribed £334. 17. 0—have recieved from Canterbury Isle of Wight Portsmouth Chichester & a few private friends £46. 6. 0—there of course remains to be raised £227. 13. 0 by the liberality of other friends in the Connection. We also state they are in want of a minister. 13. [Chatham.]

The case of Netherton Chapel near Birming- *ham was referred to a Committee consisting of Brothers Deacon Evans Titford & Vidler for thier joint consideration.[16] 14. [Page 277.] [Netherton.]

The [17]Church of Wedmore near Frome having applied to become a Member of the Assembly—it was (as it is usual in those cases) referred for consideration till the next Assembly. 15. [Wedmore.]

---

that all men could be saved; but Vidler was himself a Unitarian, and the church was about to be convulsed on the question whether it should follow him on this head. Now to many people outside—who proverbially see most of the game—this appeared the chief point, and the admission of an avowed Unitarian seemed to stamp a new character on the Assembly. Dan Taylor had done his best to keep the New Connexion in touch; he had appealed to the Assembly in his early days and his churches had been generously helped; he had responded to their appeals; he had accepted office at their hands again and again; he was pastor of one of their historic churches. But at this point he felt it a sorrowful duty to renounce fellowship, and with the snapping of this last tie, the Assembly and the New Connexion went definitely on widely diverging paths.

[15] Altered at once from, Resolved.

[16] A church here dated from about 1653, and made its last entry in its minutes 1798. The Particular Baptists presently occupied the premises.

[17] The words, application of the, precede and were cancelled at once.

16, [Messengers' funeral sermons.] By a motion from Dover Church it is recommended that for the time to come a Funeral[5] Sermon should be preached on the death of a Messenger[5] in every Church throughout the Connection.

17. [Circular Letter.] Bro. Dobel agreeable to appointment produced his Letter on the Grounds[5] & Duties of the Messenger's office—it was read approved & Ordered to be printed.

18. Agreed that this Assembly meet on Tuesday in Whitsun-week at the Meeting House in Worship Street in the year 1803—that Brother J. Deacon of Leicester preach & in case of failure Brother William Vidler & that the Messengers Elders & Representatives meet at seven O Clock. Public Service to begin at Eleven O Clock & dine at Two.

Agreed that the Assembly Book be deposited in the care of J. Evans.

Sampn. Kingsford Chairman

Benjn. Dobel } Moderators
Stephen Philpot }

[Page 278.] [1803, May 31.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the Gen Baptist Assembly held on Tuesday May 31. 1803—held in Worship Street London.

After seeking divine assistance [1]Bro. Sampn. Kingsford[1] was chosen Chairman.

[Officers.] [2]Moderators Mr. S. Philpot[1] & Mr. [1]Wm. Vidler.[1] [2]

Messengers present Brors. Dobel[1] & S. Kingsford.[1]

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
[1]Whites Alley[1]	Jno. Simpson	Wm. Watson & Jno. Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsely-down[1]		Jno. Brent & Saml. Brent	1.	1.	0
[1]Glass houseYard[1]	Jno. Evens	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford J. Buck	1.	1.	0
[2] [1]Parliament Court[1]	Wm. Vidler Abraham Bennet	Thos. Scarlet B. Jones Jno. Roberts	1.	1.	0[2]
Bessells Green		Danl. Colgate			
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobel		1.	1.	0

---

[1] Underlined.

[2] Inserted.

Ditcheling		Jas. Brown	
Waldron			
Berkhampsted	Edwd. Saxton		0 10. 6
Hythe			
Horsham	Letter	Isaac Jeffery	
		Rd. Evershed	1. 1. 0
Chatham		B. Chilley	
		T. Thompson	
		T. Tatner	19. 0
Headcorn	Robt. Pyall	Jno. Igglesden	1. 1. 0
Canterbury	Sampn. Kingsford	Jno. Farren	
		Copr. Chapman	
Smarden & Staplehurst	Josh. Seaton		10. 6
Brentford		John Barrett	10. 6
[2]Farnham		Jno. Ellis	10. 6[2]
Dover	B. Marten	G. S. Oliver	
Wingham			
Chichester			
Portsmouth	Jno. Mills	James Brent	1. 1. 0
Newport Isle Wight		A Letter	
Deal	Jno. Kingsford		
Melbourn			
Saffron Walden	Stepn. Philpott		
Ramsgate			
Horley			
			10. 18. 6
*Burnham			
Norwich	Mattw. Dexter		
Ford & Aylesbury			
Lincolnshire Associn.			
Leicestershire Associn.			
Bourne			
Spalding			
Deptford	Wm. Moon	Jno. Hughes & Jno. Camppin	0 10. 6
Tunbridge Wells			
Lewes	Richd. Snelgrove	Jas. Brown	
			£11. 9. 0

[Page 279.]

The Minutes of the [1]Last year's Proceedings[1] were read & confirmed. 1st.

It was thought proper to continue[3] the insertion of the following Resolutions [2]for the regulation of our Assembly[2] 2nd. [Voting power.]

---

[3] Replacing, consider.

(viz.) First that none ought to vote but Messengers Elders & Representatives [2]in virtue of thier office.[2] Secondly that no Church in cases referred to them by the Assembly can have more than one voice & Thirdly that Ministers & others being only members for the day tho' they may give counsel have no vote in the affairs of the Assembly.

3rd. [America.] [4]Our Brethren S. Kingsford[1] & Evans[1] appointed to correspond with the Gen Baptists in America inform us that they have recieved no communications this year—[2]they are requested to continue thier correspondence.[2]

4th. [Statistics.] The state of [1] [2]some of our Churches[1] [2] this year is as follows—(viz)—Smarden & Staplehurst 2 Elders 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Ordaind Deacons 100 Members—Canterbury 1 Pastor 1 Assistant Minister 2 Deacons 105 Members—Headcorn 2 Elders 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 92 Members—Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Assistant Ministers 3 Deacons 113 Members—Berkhamsted 2 Elders 5 Deacons 160 Members—Parliament Court 2 Elders 4 Deacons 250[5] Members—Portsmouth 1 Elder 1 Assistant Minister 2 Deacons 30 Members—Dover 1 Pastor 4 Deacons 107 Members—Saffron Waldern as last Year—Horsham 1 Pastor 3 Assistant Ministers 5 Deacons 250 Members—

5th. Bror. John Deacon preached a Sermon from 2 Cors. [6]4th Chapter &[6] the last Clause of 2nd. verse [1]"By[7] manifestations of the truth commending ourselves to every man's Conscience in the sight of God.[1]

[Page 280.] 6th. [Education Society.] *The Treasurer[1] of the[1] Gen Baptist Education Society established by this Assembly in the year 1794 reports that [1]Mr. David Thomas[1] who recieved a year & a half's Education on the Society which expired at Christmas last is now with our friend Mr. Willm. Richards of Lynn & though when he came first from Wales knew very little of the English Language yet he is now beginning to preach with acceptance in our connection. In his[1] room the society has admitted Mr. Jno Baker from the Church at Dover who is making considerable improvement. We are however sorry to observe that to other applications made in behalf of young men no attention could be paid on account of the scantiness of our finances. This is [8]the more to be regretted as Ministers are much wanted to supply our vacant Churches. We hope that this circumstance will rouse the zeal of the Gen Baptists for the support of the Education Society remembering that its [1]great design[1] is to promote the increase of an usefull[1] & [1]respectable[9] Christan ministry amongst us. We have just[2] recieved at the Assembly contributions from Parliament court [Receipts.] by the hands of Mr. Vidler—[2]from Lewes by the hands of Mr. Snellgrove[2]—from Farnham by Mr. Ellis—from Headcorn by Mr. Pyall[2]—from the Isle of Wight by Mr. Aspland from the Church of Portsmouth [2]by Mr. Brent as well as private subscriptions[2] of Mr. Wise of Chatham of Mr. David Frome of Mr. Kingsford Canterbury—[2]Mr. Hughes Deptford & Mr. Marsom London.[2] To those Churches & Individuals we[10] render our sincere thanks & trust that their liberal example will be followed[11] by every well wisher to the Education Society in our Connection.

---

[4] Originally, Our Brother Taylor; then altered twice.

[5] Originally 246.

[6] Replacing, 4.

[7] The word, the, follows and is cancelled.

The Assembly have appointed the following Gentlemen [Collectors.] to recieve procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer of the above Fund [2]Mr. Jno. Treacher No. 43—or to the Secretary John Evans A.M. Pullins Row Islington.[2] (viz) Mr. Vidler[1] of Parliament Court Mr. Simpson[1] of Hackney Mr. S. Kingsford[1] Canterbury[12] Mr. [1]Theops. Carter[1] Deal Mr.[2] B. Marten[1] Dover Mr.[2] B. Dobel[1] Cranbrook Mr.[2] R. Pyall[1] Headcorn[13] [2]Mr. [1]Richard Wright[1] Wisbeach Mr.[2] H. Brown[1] Lewes Mr.[2] J. Dendy[1] Horsham Mr.[2] S. Philpott[1] Saffron Walden Mr.[2] J. Mills[1] Portsmouth Mr.[2] T. Cook[1] Isle of Wight Dr. Toulmin[1] Taunton [2]Mr. [1]John Roberts[1] of Lincoln Mr.[2] Job David[2] Frome[1] & Mr.[2] J. Deacon[1]—Leicester —It is sincerely hoped that these gentlemen will exert* [Page 281.] themselves with zeal & unremitting activity, We thank them for their former exertions.) B 9

It is reported that the [1]Revd. Joseph Brown[1] for 37 7th. [Joseph Brown dead.] Years Pastor of the Horsley-down Church lately removed to Deptford & and for many years Secretary to the Assembly died May 21. 1803 in the 73rd year of his age; this insertion of his decease in our minutes we wish to be considered as a token of respect to his memory.

---

[8] The words, to be, precede and are cancelled.

[9] Originally, respectfull.

[10] Written twice at first.

[11] The word, up, follows and is cancelled.

[12] Originally, Sturry; a hint at his actual dwelling-place.

[13] The words, D. Davies, Ditcheling, follow and are cancelled.

8th. [Lowdell resigns.] [1]Mr. Stephen Lowdell[1] having resigned his office of Treasurer to the [1]Messengers Fund[1] received the united thanks of this Assembly for his Long[1] & faithful[1] services.[14]

9th. [Titford succeeds.] Mr. [1]Willm. Titford[1] was chosen unanimously to succeed him.

10th. [Wales.] It is recommended that the [1]Gen Baptist Churches in Wales[1] which have recieved from us temporary communications distributed amongst them by our friend [1]Mr. Wm. Richards[1] of Lynn are assisted by the[15] Gen Baptist Fund.[1] The Thanks of this Assembly are also again[2] returned to Mr. Richards[1] for his activity & exertions in behalf of the Brethren in the Principality.

11th. [Chatham.] The [1]Chatham Church having built a new place of Worship raised among themselves 381. 9. 10 [2]and have collected several sums among thier Brethren.[2] Being however[1] still in arrears 389. 2. 0 thier Case is recommended by the Assembly; they are advised to send a person into Leicestershire & Lincolnshire & elsewhere in order to obtain every necessary contribution.

12th. [Wedmore received.] The Church of Wedmore[1] near Frome under the Pastoral care of Mr. Moses Nailor having applied to become a member of this Assembly last Year it was now put in the usual way to the vote & unanimously admitted.

13th. [Canvassing.] It was agreed that Messrs. Vidler[1] & Evans[1] do send a Copy of the proceedings to the several Gen Baptist Congregations throughout the Kingdom for [2]the purpose of[2] information & Union.

14th. [Battle and Brighton.] The Churches of the[2] Gen Baptists Meeting at Battle[1] & Brighthelmstone[1] in Sussex request admission into the Assembly; it was as usual in those Cases referred to the [Page 282.] consideration *of the Churches untill next Assembly.[16]

15th. [Leicestershire Association withdraws,] Mr. [1]Dan Taylor[1] having in a Letter to this Assembly signified his having withdrawn himself[2] from us as the representative of the [1]Leicestershire Association[1] accompanied with the expression of his good wishes for our Welfare

---

[14] He came first to Assembly in 1748, had done much for its finances and for some of the churches, and was now in his 87th year, with six years yet to live.

[15] The word, several, follows and is cancelled.

[16] These churches had been gathered by Vidler in his Particular Baptist days.

& prosperity it was resolved that [1]Mr. Evans[1] should acknowledge the reciept of his Letter & thank him for his good wishes respecting us.[17]

It having been stated to us through [1]Mr. Vidler[1] that 16th. [Lincoln.] there is a Meeting House at Lincoln belonging to the Old Genl. Baptists[18] but now or lately occupied by the Calvinist Baptists we request our Brethren [1]Wm. Stanger Jno Bishell Junr. & John Roberts[1] to enquire into the state of the Trust & also of the Premises & make a report[19] at our next Assembly.

And we also recommend that our Bror. [1]Wm. Richards[1] of Lynn do go & Preach at the above Church he having been requested so to do by the Congregation.[20]

---

[17] The relation of the "Leicestershire Association," as it is steadily styled here, namely, the only surviving Association of the New Connexion, had always been very peculiar. It met this year in London, not specially as a rival to the Assembly, but in due rotation. From this time onward, even the shadow of any link disappears. Dan Taylor had appeared as its representative, not as representative of the church over which he was pastor—the old Goodman's Fields Church—another remarkable instance of holding aloof from old friends. Of course, this final rupture was precipitated by the vote of Assembly objecting to the title "Free-grace," and by its admitting Vidler, who had been touring close to the Leicester district with very different doctrines, and by its now admitting his church with its Universalist-Unitarian-Pædobaptist membership. The New Connexion had apparently henceforth no relation with the Assembly, but often admitted single churches which dropped off from it. Vidler, on the other hand, almost at once took the same commanding position in the Assembly that Dan Taylor enjoyed in the New Connexion, and imparted to it a new tinge.

[18] The first time the adjective, Old, was used. So much property was passing into the hands of the New Connexion, that it was desirable to define carefully, but in this case uselessly.

[19] The word, thereon, follows and is cancelled.

[20] The building was put up in 1695, behind St. Benedict Square, and was vested in trustees during 1726. Forty years later it was lent to the Particular Baptists, and in 1781 was let to them on lease for 40 years. John Roberts, of Lincoln, was asked, as an afterthought, to collect for the Education Fund this year. It was an ingenious idea to get William Richards, the hyper-Calvinist, in touch with the Assembly, to go and preach to the Calvinists in the leased General Baptist building; but next year reveals that he was not welcome. The subsequent history is remarkable. In 1819, the New Connexion got hold of the property and, on the expiration of the lease in 1821, let it to the Independents; but forming a new church next year, they soon resumed use of the building. A Kingsford built a new edifice in the suburb of Newport, and quitted the Connexion with it. The next pastor resigned after long quarrels. After a brief pastorate of John Craps, the cause almost collapsed, but was reorganised in 1860 and joined the G.B. Association. After rebuilding twice, the church is represented to-day by the Thomas Cooper Memorial.

17th. The Church at Dichling[1] are in want of a Minister.

18th. [1]Bror. Deacon[1] is requested to have the Sermon he preached this day printed in the [1]Universal Theological[1] Magazine.[21]

[Page 283.] 19th. [Circular Letter.] *[22]It is unanimously agreed that our Friend the [1]Revd. Dr. Joshua[2] Toulmin[1] do draw up an address pointing out[2] the [1]nature & advantage of Christian Zeal.[1]

[Page 282 again] 20. *The next Assembly to meet on Tuesday in Witsun Week 1804.

21. A Sermon to be preached by [1]Bror. Vidler & in failure of him by [1]Bror. Aspland of Newport Isle of Wight.[23]

22. The business to begin at 7 O Clock Publick Service at 11 & dine at One.

23. The Book to be deposited in the hands of [1]Bro. John[2] Evans.[1]

Signed by order of the Assembly

Sampn. Kingsford Chairman

Wm. Vidler } Moderators
Stepn. Philpot }

---

[21] This was an amazing request. Deacon was pastor of the old Leicester church, now in the New Connexion, and his sermon was probably a last attempt to keep the Assembly on the old lines. But this magazine was founded "as an Antidote against the Anti-Christian Doctrine of Endless Misery," and was edited by Vidler, who was, of course, now adding Unitarianism to its liberal programme.

[22] This minute was at first omitted, and was supplied on the page opposite, which is otherwise unused.

[23] Robert Aspland was just of age. He had already passed through remarkable changes like Vidler. Bred in the Particular Baptist church of Soham, where Andrew Fuller had upheld Calvinism, he had been baptised at Devonshire Square, the chief London Particular Baptist church. But after studying at Bristol and Aberdeen, he had been expelled for his doctrinal views, and had come into touch with Evans at Worship Street, who had procured him a call to Newport. This year he plainly avowed himself a Unitarian, and within a few months was to settle over the ancient Presbyterian church at Old Gravel Pit, Hackney, where for forty years he was to be the champion of liberal views in theology and politics. He was speedily associated with Vidler in the "Universal Theological Magazine," of which he assumed control by 1806, changing its name to the "Monthly Repository."

All relations between the General Assembly and the New Connexion were now broken off, although some churches in the one were still linked with some churches in the other, to the extent of sharing Pierce Johns' Trust. In 1805 the church at Downton, which had just joined the New Connexion, asked, What are we to understand by the phrase, "New Connexion of General Baptists?" To which the official answer was, "Several churches in "Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Kent, &c., in the year 1770, in consequence of a "difference in their religious sentiments, broke off their connexion with the "General Baptists, who hold their annual assembly in Worship-street, London. "These were joined at the time of their seperation by a body of General "Baptists in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, &c., which had "recently arisen from small beginnings to a respectable number, and with "many churches which afterwards joined them, or were raised by their "exertions, have since been distinguished by the appellation of 'The New "Connexion of General Baptists.'"

On this statement it deserves to be noted (1) That the several churches numbered eleven, (2) That in Lincolnshire there were two, one of which speedily returned to its old associates, (3) That in Yorkshire there was one, which had never as a church been represented at the Assembly, though it had been a member of the Lincolnshire Association, and though it had recently begged money from the Assembly, (4) That in Kent there were three churches, all of which had promptly dropped out of touch, (5) That in Essex there were three churches, which also dropped out soon, one returning to the Assembly, (6) That of the two London churches, Church Lane—the old Goodman's Fields church—remained semi-isolated, and was not formally received till 1786; Gravel Lane—the old Park church—slipped in informally in 1800, whereas the church at March was postponed on a point of order that might well have delayed its case. It follows then, in the candid words of J. W. Wood, that Boston is "the only one of the ancient churches that continued regularly united with the New Connexion from its formation."

The relations between the New Connexion and the Assembly had been ambiguous. From 1786 till 1802 Dan Taylor had represented the younger body at the Assembly, and often signed the minutes where it was recorded as the Leicestershire Association. John Deacon also, pastor of Friar Lane, had attended more or less informally. In 1803 Taylor declined to attend, and the Association decided not to appoint any one. Feelings were evidently deeply moved now, as the case of John Tarratt illustrates. He was one of the Leicestershire preachers from 1755, helped form the New Connexion as one of the pastors, and laboured at Kegworth till 1799. Then he went to Deal, an old Assembly church which had joined the New Connexion in 1770 and had dropped out within two years, resuming its place at the Assembly. Early this year he proposed to come north again, and the Leicestershire Conference suggested Ashford or Cauldwell or Epworth or Misterton. But Smedley of Retford wrote that he would not be welcome at Misterton or Epworth—all being originally of the Assembly group, but Retford having passed over while Misterton and Epworth still adhered to their old associates. Tarratt therefore went to the Assembly church of Hythe and Folkestone for a few years, then went to Sutton Bonington of the New Connexion, as a minister, not pastor.

It had not been thoroughly settled whether a church could belong to both the New Connexion and the Assembly. That point was raised in 1806, when the Association resented the inclusion of Leicester, Bourne, Spalding, &c. in the Assembly Letter for 1805, and desired John Deacon to take steps to rectify the mistake.

It may be added that about 1870 deputations of each body were appointed frequently to attend the sessions of the other, but not without vehement opposition from a minority in the New Connexion. Hopes were entertained of a closer union, but the spirit of union produced effects in another direction. The teachings of Andrew Fuller had leavened many of the Old Particular Baptist churches, which came to see that the gospel was worthy of acceptation by all men; they were reinforced by a multitude of new churches, due especially to the influence of Spurgeon. As these were all actively evangelistic, at home and abroad, the New Connexion decided in 1891 to practically (though not technically) dissolve its organization, and join with these other churches, which in many cases were ready to discontinue the epithet "Particular." Since then the New Connexion maintains only a legal and formal existence, and there is no inducement for it to merge again with the Assembly.

[Page 284.] *New Title

The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptist Churches by their Elders & Representatives held on &c.[1]

[Page 285.] [1804, May 22.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the Gen. Baptist Assembly held on Tuesday May 22nd 1804[2] held in Worship Street London

[Officers.] After seeking divine assistance Brother[3] John Marsom[4] was chosen Chairman—[5]Brethren Edward Love[6] [7]Joseph Doble Moderators.

[Members present.] Messengers present [7]Brethren Benjamin Doble [7]Sampson Kingsford [7]Robert Pyall [7]Benjamin Marten & [7]John Evans.

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	John Simpson	David Eaton & Jno. Marsom	1.	1.	0
Horselydown	Letter	Jno. Brent & Saml. Brent	1.	1.	0
Glass House Yard	John Evans	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford & T. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliament Court	Wm. Vidler C. Bass	Jno. Roberts & F. Champion	1.	1.	0

---

[1] The events of last year were in reality crucial, and the adoption of a new title is a tacit recognition of the new departure. The Six Principles and the Confession of 1660 have not been heard of for some time, and there is now no clear avowal of any principles at all.

[2] This date is repeated in error at the end of the sentence, and cancelled.

[3] Originally, Brother; then, Mr.; then, Brother.

[4] Underlined.

[5] The words, Mr. John, precede and are cancelled.

[6] The epithet, Senr., follows and is cancelled.

[7] The epithet, Mr., precedes and is cancelled.

Bessels Green					
Cranbrook	B. Doble	J. Doble & W. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling	Abrm. Bennett	Wm. Beal	0.	6.	0
Waldron					
Berkhamsted	Edwd. Saxton			5.	0
Hythe					
Horsham					
Chatham	A Letter	T. Thompson & R. Bowles			
Headcorn	Edwd. Love & R. Pyall	Stephen Love	1.	1.	0
Canterbury	S. Kingsford	C. Chapman Phineas Shrubsale			
Smarden & Staplehurst	Letter			10.	6
Brentford		Jno. Barrett		10.	6
Farnham					
Dover	B. Marten	James Philpot Jno. Fuller			
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth			1.	1.	0
Newport Isle of Wight		A Letter			
			8.	19.	0
Deal					
Melbourn					
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot				
Ramsgate					
Horley					
*Burnham					[Page 286.]
Norwich	Mathew Dexter				
Ford & Aylesbury					
Lincolnshire Associatn.					
Leicestershire Do.					
Bourne					
Spalding[8]					
Tunbridge Wells					
Lewes		Richd. Snelgrove			
Wedmore					

---

[8] The entry, Deptford, follows and is cancelled. The church at Deptford united this year with the Horslydown church, which had shared the premises for the last three years, and had lately lost its pastor, Joseph Brown. William Moon, the young student who had lately settled over Deptford, continued pastor of the united church.

1. The Minutes of the last Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2. [Voting power.] It was thought proper to continue the insertion of the following resolutions for the regulation of the Assembly viz—

First that none ought to vote but Messengers Elders & Representatives in virtue of their office 2ndly that no Church in cases referred to them by the Assembly can have more than one voice & 3ly that Ministers & others not being Elders or Representatives of any Church in connection with the Assembly tho' we should be glad of their counsel have no vote in the business of the Assembly.

3. [Minutes of 1801.] The 19th Article of the Assembly for the Year 1801 was read relative to the admission of our Brethren Wm. Vidler & Abraham Bennet, in explanation of which we observe that those Brethren were admitted only[9] to assist but not to vote in the Business of the day.

4. [America.] [Page 287.] Our brethren Sampson Kingsford & John Evans appointed to correspond with the General *Baptists in America inform us that they have received no communications this year—they are requested to continue their correspondence.

5. [Statistics.] The state of some of our Churches this year is as follows viz—Horsly Down Church Deptford 1 Elder 6 Deacons 40 Members—Cranbrook 1 Elder 3 Deacons 2 Ministers decrease 2—No. of Members 105—Chatham lost 1. received 8—1 Deacon—Headcorn 2 Elders 3 Deacons 2 Ministers—Members 94—Canterbury 1 Elder 1 Minister 3 Deacons—110 Members—Smarden & Staplehurst 1 Elder 2 Ministers 2 Deacons 95 Members—Dover 1 Elder 2 Deacons 113 Members[10]—Portsmouth 1 Elder 3 Deacons 1 Minister —30 Members—Newport Isle of Wight 1 Elder—& a Charity school—Parliament Court 2 Elders 4 Deacons 202 Members —& a Sunday School—& Ditchling 1 Elder 1 Deacon 68[11] Members & 2 Assistant Ministers.

6. Brother William Vidler preached a Sermon from 3 Coloss. 14. [4]Above all these things put on Charity which is the bond of perfectness.[4] It was agreed to be published.

---

[9] The words, as members, followed and are cancelled.

[10] Originally, Dover 1 Elder 2 Deacons 95 Members, all cancelled and this following.

[11] Originally, 46.

7. [Education Society.] The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society established by this Assembly in the year 1794 reports that Mr. John Baker from the Church at Dover continues on the Society & is making considerable improvement. We must indeed be permitted to add what has been already said on a former occasion that it is to be regretted we cannot educate more than one[4] at the time owing to the scantiness of our finances. We are however firmly persuaded that the more our Institution is *examined—the more it will be found [Page 288.] entitled to their approbation. Its great design it will be remembered is to promote the increase of useful[4] & respectable[4] Ministers of the Gospel among the General Baptist Connection.

[Subscriptions.] We have just received at this Assembly contributions from [16]Saffron Walden by Mr. Philpot from Lewes by Mr. Snellgrove—from Farnham by Mr. Ellis—from Headcorn by Mr. Pyall—from the Isle of Wight by Mr. Ashland—from Portsmouth by Mr. Brent [17]from Smarden & Staplehurst by Mr. Doble & from Wisbeach by Mr. Wright[17] as well as the private subscription of Mr. S. Kingsford & Mrs. S. Kingsford—of Mr. Campion Deptford—[17]of Mr. Dexter Norwich—of Mr. Deacon Leicester—& of[17] Mr. Marsom London.[18] [Collectors.] The Assembly have appointed the following gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer of the above fund—Mr. John Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary John Evans A. M. Pullins Row Islington—Mr. Vidler Parliament Court—Mr. J. Simpson Hackney—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury—Mr. Theophilus Carter Deal Mr. B. Marten Dover [17]Mr. A. Bennett Ditchling[17]—Mr. B. Dobel Cranbrook—Mr. Pyall Headcorn—Mr. Richard Wright Wisbeach—[17]Mr. Dexter Norwich[17]—Mr. H. Brown Lewes—Mr. J. Dendy Horsham—Mr. S. Philpot Saffron Walden—Mr. J. Mills Portsmouth—Mr. T. Cooke Isle of Wight —Dr. Toulmin Birmingham—Mr. John Roberts Lincoln—Mr. Job David Taunton *& Mr. J. Deacon Leicester. [Page 289.] It is sincerely hoped these Gentlemen will exert themselves with zeal & unremitting activity. [19]The Assembly also recommend to all the Churches to preach an annual[4] sermon in favour of the Education Society & transmit their collections raised at these services to[20] the ensuing Assembly.

---

[16] The words, Parliament Court, precede and are cancelled.

[17] Inserted.

[18] The entry as to Smarden and Wisbech originally stood here, and was transposed.

[19] This originally began, But whilst we.

8. [Wales.] The thanks of this Assembly are returned to Mr. William Richards of Lynn for his communications respecting the present state of the General Baptists in Wales—& we recommend that the General Baptist Fund continue to assist them.

9. [Chatham.] By a Letter from Mr. Chilly at Chatham it appears that £71. 1. 9 still remains unpaid of the expences incurred by the erection of their Meeting house—it is recommended that Mr.[17] Tarratt of Hythe should visit[21] Leicestershire & Lincolnshire to[22] make a collection towards liquidating the above debt. We hope our Brethren in that quarter will aid so worthy a case by their liberal[17] contributions.

10. [Battle and Brighton admitted.] The Churches of the General Baptists meeting at Battle[4] & Brighthelmstone[4] in Sussex—having requested admission into the Assembly—their admission was unanimously voted for by[23] the several Churches in our Connection.

[Page 290.] 11. [New Connexion.] *The Assembly think it proper to mention that they will be glad to recieve a Representative from the Leicestershire Association—or from any individual Churches in connection with it.

12. [Lincoln.] Mr. Richards[4] of Lynn having been to Lincoln agreeable to the desire of the General Assembly we thank him for his exertions there though we are sorry they were not attended with success. We also most sincerely regret that his treatment at that place with some honourable exceptions—was so extremely illiberal & utterly irreconcileable to the spirit of Christianity.

13. [Circular Letter.] The address on the [4]Nature & advantages of Christian Zeal[4] [24]by Dr. Joshua Toulmin was read approved & ordered to be printed.

14. It was moved and carried that Mr. Vidler draw up our next Letter on the [4]Utility of this Assembly.[4]

15. [Messengers.] We are happy in informing the Churches that agreeable to a former resolution our Brethren Robert Pyall—John Evans —& Benjamin Marten were ordained to the office of

---

[20] Originally, at.

[21] Originally, go into.

[22] Originally, for the purpose of.

[23] Originally, in their.

[24] The word, was, preceded and is cancelled.

Messengers on Wednesday June 1st. 1803 at the General Baptist Meeting House Church Street Deptford.

*It having been mentioned in our last Proceedings that the Church at Ditchling was in want of a Minister—we just state that Mr. Abraham Bennett is removed thither from Parliament Court—& is now settled amongst them. [Page 291.] 16. [Ditchling.]

The General Baptist Church at Lutton in Lincolnshire request admission into the Assembly—it is as usual in those cases referred to the consideration of our churches until the next Assembly.[25] 17. [Lutton.]

The Assembly request Mr. Beal & Mr. Snelgrove to visit the Church at Waldron—enquiring into their state—giving them every necessary advice—& begging them to send a communication to the Assembly. 18. [Waldron.]

The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street on Tuesday in Whitsun Week 1805. 19.

A Sermon to be preached by Brother Aspland of Newport Isle of Wight—& in failure of him by Brother Moon of Deptford. 20.

The business to begin at seven O Clock—public service at Eleven & dine at One. 21.

---

[25] A Methodist preacher, Henry Poole, had become Baptist, and was chosen Elder of Fleet church, which he took out of the Old Connexion into the New in 1770. Moving in 1773 to Lutton, he founded a new church, which joined the New Connexion. But in 1788 he adopted the Universalist views preached by Winchester, and to be further popularized by Vidler. So in 1793 he and his church dropped out of the New Connexion. As Vidler had lately directed attention in the district to the Assembly, this application was natural. It is nearly the only case of a church quitting the New Connexion for the Old. The New Connexion records at the time called this church "Long Sutton," but the building and the manse are just over the boundary, being really in the parish of Sutton St. Nicholas or Lutton, a name contracted from Little Sutton. The building was erected, according to Adam Taylor, in 1776, by subscriptions raised locally and in the New Connexion. To-day it bears the date 1700, a probable reference to the fact that even in 1688 members resident here were on the church roll of Spalding. In 1723 the members at Fleet and Lutton acted together, rather independently of the Spalding members; in 1762 the technical severance from the main stock took place. Though in 1770 the Fleet and Lutton members were represented at the formation of the New Connexion, they dropped out next year. The Lutton members separated from the Fleet church in 1773 under the guidance of Henry Poole, the ex-Methodist who had taken the Fleet and Lutton members into the New Connexion. The Fleet church appealed to the Assembly in 1788, but rejoined the New Connexion in 1812. Some members in 1840 seceded from it and founded the present Long Sutton church, to be distinguished from the Lutton Assembly church.

22. [Visitors.] It having been observed that we often percieve[26] Friends at the Assembly who are not known to us & in consequence of which are little noticed—it is recommended that any [Page 292.] person knowing *them will introduce them to the Chairman of the Assembly.

23. The Book to be deposited in the hands of brother John Evans.

Signed by order of the Assembly—

John Marsom Chairman

Edwd. Love
Joseph Dobell } Moderators

[Page 293.] [1805, June 4.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General[1] Assembly [2]of the General Baptists by their Elders & Representatives[2] held on Tuesday June the 4th 1805[3] in Worship Street London

[Officers.] After seeking divine assistance Brother William Vidler was chosen Chairman—Brethren Stephen Philpott & Abraham Bennett Moderators—Messengers present Brethren—John [Members present.] Evans Benjamin Dobel—[2]Sampson Kingsford—Robert Pyall & Benjamin Marten.[2]

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	John Simpson	Wm. Watson			
		Jno. Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsleydown	Wm. Moon	Jno. Brent			
		Mr. Monforte	1.	1.	0
Glasshouse Yard	John Evans	Jno. Treacher			
		Wm. Titford			
		T. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliament Court	Wm. Vilder	Benjamin Jones			
		Benjn. Baker			
		Thomes Mortimer			
		Jno. Roberts			
		Charles Burrell	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green[4]		Wm. Burgeiss			
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobel	William Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling	Abraham Bennett			6	
Berkhampsted	Edward Saxton			7	

---

[26] Originally, observed.

[1] The word, Baptist, followed and is cancelled.

[2] Inserted.

[3] The word, held, was repeated next and is cancelled.

[4] Originally the word, Letter, followed.

Hythe						
Horsham		[5]John Jeffry				
		Richard Evershed	1.	1.	0	
Chatham	Letter					
Headcorn	Robt. Pyall		1.	1.	0	
Canterbury	Sampsn. Kingsford	Jno. Farren				
		C. Chapman				
		P. Shrubsale				
Smarden & Staplehurst	Letter			10.	6	
Brentford		John Barrett		10.	6	
Farnham						
Dover	Benjamn. Marten		1.	11.	6	
Wingham						
Chichester						
Portsmouth			1.	1.	0	
Newport Isle of Wight		Robert Harris		10.	6	
Deal	Letter					
Melbourn						
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot					
			11.	17.	0	
*Leicester		Jno. Deacon[6]				[Page 294.]
Ramsgate						
Horley						
Burnham						
Norwich	Matthew Dexter			2.	6	
Ford & Aylesbury						
Lincolnshire Associatn.						
Leicestershire Do.						
Bourne						
Spalding						
Tunbridge Wells						
Lewes						
Wedmore						
			11.	19.	6	

---

[5] He was at first classified as Elder.

[6] There is something peculiar about Deacon's attitude. He was son of a prominent New Connexion leader, had been trained under Dan Taylor, and invited to this old Assembly church. Lately he had preached for the Assembly, and now he appears as representative, while the church is in the New Connexion, and after the "Leicestershire Association" has formally withdrawn. Moreover, he had been Elder, but appears here as Representative. This, however, coincides with the church record, that about 1806 he ceased to be pastor for five years.

1. The Minutes of last Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed.

2. [Voting power,] It is thought proper to continue the insertion of the following Resolutions for the regulation of the Assembly viz —First that none ought to vote but Messengers Elders & Representatives in virtue of their office—Secondly that no Church in cases referred to them by the Assembly can have more than one voice & Thirdly that Ministers & Others not being Elders or Representatives of any Church in connection with the Assembly (though we should be glad of their counsel) have no vote in the business of the Assembly.

3. [America.] Our Brethren Sampson Kingsford & John Evans appointed to correspond with the General Baptists in America inform us that they have received no communications this Year—they are requested to continue their correspondence.

[Page 295.] 4. [Statistics.] *The state of some of our Churches this year is as follows viz—

Parliament Court admitted 12—2 dead—4 excommunicated —5 withdrawn. 2 Preaching Elders 2 Ruling Elders 5 Deacons. In connection with Glass House Yard a Sunday School—Benevolent Society & Chapel Library.

Bessels Green—as before—Cranbrook 1 Elder 2 Ministers—3 Deacons—lost 4. 101 Members—they have Lectures Prayer Meetings and Conferences.—Ditchling 1 Elder 3 Ministers 1 Deacon 104 Members—baptised 8 lost 1.—Waldron 1 Minister—30 Members.—Horsham 1 Elder 4 Ministers 6 Deacons—a small diminution.—Chatham the same as before —but no Minister. Headcorn 2 Elders 2 Ministers Deacons 3—92 Members. Canterbury 1 Elder 1 Minister 3 Deacons —received 3—lost 1—112 Members.—Smarden & Staplehurst 1 Elder 3 Ministers 4 Deacons—100 Members. Dover 1 Elder 2 Deacons 106 Members.—Portsmouth the same as before—Isle of Wight Newport—No Elder—1 Minister 2 Deacons 40 Members—also a Charity School. Deal 1 Elder 1 Minister 3 Deacons 30 Members—lost none added 2.—Norwich 1 Elder 2 Deacons lost 1 Member. Battle 122 Members — Northham 27 — Rolvenden 5 Members — Rye 2 Ministers D. Honeyset—Jno. Barns also S. Blundell—Thos. Gamer—Jno. Bull & Thos. Payne—Brighton 2 Ministers—1 Deacon.

5. Brother Robert Aspland preached a sermon from 1 Cor. 3. 11. 12. 13. 14. & 15. & it was agreed to be published.

The Treasurer of the [7]General Baptist [8]Education 6.
Society[7] established by the Assembly in the year 1794 reports [Education Society.]
that Mr. John Baker *ceased continuing on the Society at [Page 296.]
Christmas last—& in his room Mr. George Smallfield[7] from
the Church at Cranbrook has been admitted. We rejoice
to say that in consequence of the increasing attention paid
to this Society by our several Churches—we have it now in
our power to [9]receive a greater number of Pupils for the
purposes of Education. We however take this opportunity
of recommending the Institution[7] to the patronage of our
Brethren who wish well to the General Baptist Connection.
It is[2] also a pleasing circumstance worthy of being noticed [Self-supporting students.]
—that hereby [7]other young Men[7] have been induced to come
forward on their own footing & avail themselves of the same
course of Education for the Christian Ministry—thus aiding
& promoting the great cause of Virtue & Piety amongst us.
We have just received at this Assembly Contributions from [Subscriptions.]
Saffron Walden by Mr. Philpot—from Farnham by Mr. Ellis
—from Headcorn by Mr. Pyall—[2]from Cranbrook by Mr. B.
Dobel—from Dover by Mr. Marten[2] from the Isle of Wight
by Mr. Harris—from Portsmouth by Mr. Brent—from Smarden
& Staplehurst by Mr. B. Dobel—from Wisbeach &cc by the
hands of Mr. Wright as well as the private subscriptions of
Mr. S. Kingsford & Mrs. S. Kingsford—from Norwich by
Mr. Dexter—of Mr. Deacon of Leicester of Mr. Marsom
London. [2]& of Mr. Jno. Jeffrey from Horsham handsome[7]
contributions which we hope will be imitated by others.[2]
The Assembly have appointed the following Gentlemen to [Collectors.]
receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer.
*of the above Fund Mr. John Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow [Page 297.]
or to the Secretary John Evans A.M. Pullin's Row Islington
Mr. Vidler 187 Holborn—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury—
Mr. B. Marten Dover Mr. Bennett Ditchling—Mr. B. Dobell
Cranbrook—Mr. Pyall Headcorn—Mr. R. Wright Wisbeach
—Mr. Dexter Norwich—Mr. H. Brown Lewes—Mr. John
Jeffrey Horsham—Mr. S. Philpot Saffron Walden—Mr. J. Mills
Portsmouth—Mr. T. Cooke Newport Isle of Wight—Dr.
Toulmin Birmingham—Mr. Job David Taunton & Mr. J.
Deacon Leicester It is sincerely hoped these Gentlemen will
continue to exert themselves with zeal & unremitting activity.

---

[7] Underlined.

[8] Originally, Church.

[9] Originally, take.

The Assembly also recommend to all the Churches to preach an annual[7] Sermon in favour of the Education Society & transmit their collections raised at those services to the ensuing Assembly.

7. [Chatham.] Relative to [7]Chatham Church[7] Brother Sampson Kingsford has agreeable to appointment written to Mr. Farran of Hythe requesting him to go into Leicestershire to solicit the assistance of that Association but as Mr. Tarratt cannot conveniently [10]undertake the Journey[10] Brother [7]Stephen Philpott[7] has at our request agreed to go provided that his Church be supplied.

8. The Assembly think it proper to mention that they will be glad to receive a Representative from the Leicestershire Association or from any [11]Individual Church[11] in connection with it.

9. [Page 298.] [Another education scheme.] A Plan of education for the Ministry *on the general[7] ground of supporting rational Christianity was mentioned by one of our Churches—resolved by this Assembly that they would be glad to see such a plan carried into execution so far as it does not[12] militate against the [7]General Baptist Education Society[7] already established by this Assembly. The Secretary however is desired to correspond with that Church on the subject.

10. [Circular Letter.] The Address on the [7]Utility of this Assembly[7] by Mr. Vidler was read & ordered to be printed.

11. [Lutton.] It is unanimously resolved that the Church at Sutton in Lincolnshire be admitted as a branch of this Assembly.

12. [Waldron.] Relative to Waldron Brother Snelgrove & Beal have agreeably to appointment visited that Church & report that they are without a Pastor & in a confused & disorderly state. As they wish however to be visited by our Messengers we request that our Brethren B. Dobel & R. Pyall attend to them.

13. [Wisbech.] The General Baptist Church at Wisbeach under the care of Brother R. Wright requested admission into the Assembly it is as usual in those cases referred to the consideration of our Churches until the next Assembly.

[Page 299.] 14. [Dover.] *Some difficulties existing in Dover Church we advise our Friends mutually—to obtain Counsel's opinion thereon

---

[10] Originally, go.

[11] Originally, Individuals.

[12] The word, already, follows and is cancelled.

& that previous thereto they agree to abide by such decision as the Counsel may make on the subject.

It was proposed by [13]Brother Evans & unanimously carried that our much respected Brother the [7]Revd. William Richards[7] of Lynn draw up our next Letter on the Perpetuity of Christian Baptism.[7] 15.

This Assembly taking into consideration the importance of [7]Free Enquiry[7] in matters of Religion & having in our Connection a periodical Work which for impartiallity is not equalled (the Universal Theological Magazine) think this work ought to be patronised by all[7] our Churches & as it is probable that some of our friends scarcely know that such a work exists & many intelligent Members of the poorer class cannot afford to purchase it—we recommend that every Church should take a certain number[14] of these Magazines for the use of their Members in common & that those individuals who are able would also procure Copies for the sake of circulation.— 16. [Universal Theological Magazine.]

The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street on Tuesday in Whitsun week 1806. 17.

The Sermon to be preached by Brother Moon of Deptford & in failure of him by Brother John Jeffrey of Horsham.— 18.

The Business to begin at Seven O Clock Public Service at Eleven & dine at one. 19.

*It having been observed that we often perceive friends at the Assembly who are not known to us & in consequence of which are little noticed—it is recommended that any person knowing them will introduce them to the Chairman of the Assembly.[15] [Page 300.] 20. [Strangers to be introduced.]

The Book to be deposited in the hands of Brother John Evans.— 21.

Signed by order of the Assembly

Wm. Vidler Chairman

Stephen Philpot.
Abraham Bennett } Moderators

---

[13] Originally, Mr.

[14] The word, for, follows and is cancelled.

[15] Did some members of Church Lane and Gravel Lane still haunt the Assembly to which their churches had belonged, when housed in Goodman's Fields and Park ?

[Page 301.] [1806, May 27.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptists by their Elders & Representatives held on Tuesday May 27. 1806 in Worship Street London.—

[Officers.] After seeking divine assistance Brother Benjamin Marten was chosen Chairman Brothers Stephen Philpot & [1]Robert Pyall Moderators—[Members present.] Messengers present Brethren Benjamin Dobel John Evans Robert Pyall & Benjamin Marten.—

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£	s.	d.
		For the Messenger's Fund.			
White Alley	John Simpson	W. Watson John Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsley down	Wm. Moon	S. Brent M. Monfort James Blake	1.	1.	0
Glass house Yard	John Evans	John Treacher W. Titford T. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliament [2]Court	Wm. Vidler & Charles Bass				
Bessels Green					
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobell	Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling					
Cuckfield & Barcomb	Abrm. Bennett			7	
Waldron					
Berkhamstead	Edward Saxton				
Hythe					
Horsham & Billingshurst					
Chatham		Benjn. Chilly Thos. Thomson & Richd. Bowles[3]			
Headcorn	Robt. Pyall		1.	1.	0
Canterbury		F. J. Kingsford & P. Chapman			
Smarden & Staplehurst	Danl. Hosmer	Letter		10.	6
Brentford		John[4] Barrett		10.	6
Farnham					
Dover	Benjn. Marten		1.	.	.
			7.	13.	0

---

[1] Originally, Abraham Bennett.

[2] Originally, Yard.

[3] The title, Mr., originally preceded each of these three names.

[4] Originally, Joseph.

Wingham						
Chichester						
*Portsmouth		James Brent	1.	1.	0	[Page 302.]
Newport Isle of Wight						
Deal	Jno. Kingsford	A Letter				
Melbourn						
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot					
Leicester						
Ramsgate		Thos. Chapman Senr.				
Horley						
Burnham						
Norwich	Matthew Dexter					
Ford & Aylesbury						
Lincolnshire Associatn.						
Leicestershire	Do.					
Bourne						
Spalding						
Tunbridge Wells						
Lewes	Richard Snelgrove			14.	-	
Brighton[5]	Wm. Gillam					
Wedmore						
Sutton		Letter		8.	6	
Battle						
Northiam[6]						
Rolvenden & Rye						
			9.	16.	6	

The Minutes of the last Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed. 1.

It is thought proper to continue the insertion of the following resolutions for the regulation of the Assembly viz— 2.
First that none ought to vote but Messengers Elders & [Voting power.]
Representatives in virtue of their office Secondly that no Church in cases referred to them by the Assembly can have more than one voice & Thirdly that Ministers & others not being Elders or Representatives of any Church in connection with the Assembly though we should be glad of their counsel have no vote in the business of the Assembly.

*Our Brethren [7]Sampson Kingsford[7] & [7]John Evans[7] [Page 303.]
appointed to correspond with the General Baptists in 3. [America.]
America inform us that they have received no communi-

---

[5] Originally credited with 10s. 6d. subscription.

[6] Originally, Battle and Northiam, coupled together.

[7] Underlined.

cations this year. They are requested to continue their correspondence.[8]—

4. [Statistics.] The state of some of our Churches this year is as follows—.
Cranbrook[7] 1 Elder 2 Assisting Ministers 3 Deacons & 96 members—lost 6 by death added none—Chatham[7] 1 ordained Deacon 1 Acting Deacon—Headcorn[7] 2 Elders 3 Deacons 2 Assisting Ministers—Smarden[7] & Staplehurst[7] 4 Elders & 4 Deacons number of members the same as the last year—Dover[7] 1 Pastor 3 Deacons 109 members—Deal[7] 31 Members —Sutton[7] wants a Pastor—Battle[7] lost 1 Member by death added 1 by Baptism 2 Preachers 122 Members—Rolvenden 8 added by Baptism—[7]Parliament Court[7] 2 Preachg. Elders —2 Ruling Elders 5 Deacons 160 Members 17 withdrawn on account of principles—10 withdrawn by absence—lost 2 by death—added 8 by Baptism & 1 excluded.—

5. Brother William Moon preached a Sermon from 1 Cor. 15. 57 [7]Thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.[7]

6. [Education Society. The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society established by this Assembly 1794 reports that Mr. George Smallfield from the Church at Cranbrook still continues on the Society & that we expect a young man of promising abilities from Wales after the Midsummer Vacation. It is a circumstance gratifying to the supporters and well wishers [Page 304.] of our Society that its finances *are of late more flourishing & that thus we are able in a degree to answer the demands made upon us by the different Churches in our connection. We trust that the same active liberality in support of the Institution will continue & even increase—persuaded that its advantages will in a few years be sensibly felt amongst us. Other denominations amongst the Protestant Dissenters are more zealous than ever in extending the aids of education to those young Men who are trained up for the Christian Ministry. Let us not be behind them in such laudable exertions. At least our efforts should be commensurate with our ability & through[9] the use of such rational means sanctioned by the blessing of Heaven our Cause (which we believe to be the Cause of God[7] & of Truth[7]) will diffuse itself throughout the World.—

---

[8] This fertile correspondence and this minute continue unchanged to the end.

[9] Originally, by.

For [10]a List of[10] the Annual[7] Subscriptions to this Institution & of the Collections[7] made by several of our Churches & transmitted to us by their Ministers the Reader is referred to the Account of the [7]Education Society[7] attached to these Proceedings—& we trust that the List will be annually[7] augmenting as[11] its object is so truly deserving attention.— [Education Report annexed.]

*The Assembly appoint the following Gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer [7]Mr. John Treacher[7] No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary the [7]Rev. J. Evans[7]—Pullin's Row Islington—Mr. Vidler 187 Holborn Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury—Mr. B. Marten Dover —Mr. Bennett Ditchling—Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook—Mr. Pyall Headcorn—Mr. R. Wright Wisbeach—Mr. Dexter Norwich —Mr. Jacob Dobell & Mr. Danl. Hosmer Smarden & Staplehurst—Mr. H. Brown Lewes—Mr. John Jeffrey Billingshurst & Steyning—Mr. Sadler Horsham—Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden—Mr. Mills Portsmouth—Mr. F. Cooke Isle of Wight —Dr. Toulmin Birmingham Mr. Job David Taunton & Mr. Deacon Leicester.—It is earnestly hoped that these gentlemen will continue to exert themselves with zeal & unremitting activity. The Assembly also recommend to All[7] the Churches to preach an Annual[7] Sermon in favour of the [7]Education Society[7] & transmit their Collections raised at those services to[12] the ensuing Assembly. [Page 305.] [Collectors.]

7. [Chatham obtains Leicestershire help.] Relative to Chatham Church our Brother Philpot reports that he has been into Leicestershire & collected the sum of £43 which he has remitted to Mr. Benjamin Chilley. A motion was made & carried that thanks be given to Brother Philpot for his great labor & exertion in this business—& also to our friend Mr. Jno. Deacon for his ready patronage & assistance. We are happy also in being informed by Mr. Chilley that our much esteemed friend Mrs. Wise has made up the deficiency. The whole business is therefore now closed & the Chatham Church beg leave to return their sincere & hearty thanks *to Mr. Philpot & to all other friends who have rendered them essential service both upon former & present occasions. — [Page 306.]

8. The Assembly think it proper to mention that they will be glad to receive a Representative from the Leicestershire

---

[10] Inserted.

[11] Originally, when.

[12] Originally, at.

Association or from any Individual Church in connection with it. —

9. [Waldron.] Relative to Waldron Sussex[10] Brethren Snelgrove & Beal have agreeably to appointment visited that Church & report that they are without a Pastor & in a confused & disorderly state. As they wish however to be visited by our Messengers we request that our Brethren B. Dobell & R. Pyall attend them. —

10. [Wisbech.] The General Baptist Church at Wisbeach under the care of Brother R. Wright requested admission into the Assembly. —they are accordingly unanimously admitted as Members of this Assembly.—[13]

11. [Circular Letter.] The Letter written by our much respected friend the Revd. Wm. Richards of Lynn on the Perpetuity[7] of [7]Christian Baptism[7] was [10]read by our Brother Evans[10]—agreed to be printed & being[10] so much approved of there was a large number subscribed for by the several Members & Churches of the Assembly.—

[Page 307.] 12. [Welsh Association.] *A Letter being read relative to the state of our General Baptist Brethren in Wales[14] & Mr. William Morris one of the Ministers from the Principality present at the Assembly having communicated some information concerning their late

---

[13] The proceedings at Wisbech are rather hard to understand. In 1785 the old Assembly church, dating from 1655, joined the New Connexion, and its history from that time is traced by the historians, Adam Taylor and Wood, without the faintest indication of that decision being reversed. In 1905, at the 250th anniversary, there is no hint in the historical statement read of any division. The old premises in Place's Yard were kept by the church, but in 1803 a new chapel in Ely Place was built for the church, and opened by Dan Taylor; while in 1804 Joseph Jarrom was ordained and remained pastor till 1838. As this church in 1871 sold the old premises in Place's Yard, it would appear that these continued in its possession all the while. But these minutes here make it plain that there was a second General Baptist Church, now under the care of Richard Wright (and in 1831 under Neil Walker), which was now received into the Assembly. The open point is whether this claimed any kind of continuity with the earlier, or was an evolution from Fisher's Particular Baptist church, or was newly gathered. Richard Wright was one of the great Unitarian champions, who already had won Vidler, and through him had brought about the recent obvious change in the Assembly. His neighbour, John Gisburne, at Soham, was working in the same direction, and both were destined to be pastors of the ancient Conigre Church at Trowbridge. It seems probable that this church of Wright's was entirely new. It is certain that after a few years it formally disclaimed Baptist principles, having previously dropped its connection with the Assembly.

[14] This originally continued, and one of the Ministers (Mr. Morris, of), from the Principality, &c.

Association of the Welsh Churches it was agreed that this Assembly will thankfully receive any account their Welsh Brethren may be able to transmit [7]annually[15] of their Association & the progress of the General Baptist Cause in that part of the Island.—It is[10] also resolved that any case the Welsh Churches may for the future wish to submit to the consideration of the English General Baptists be received thro' the medium of the Welsh Association. At the same time having taken into consideration the cases of [Welsh cases.] our Brother [7]Benjamn. Phillips[7] who has been burnt out of his house & of our[10] Brother [7]William Thomas[7] who has purchased a house for the worship of God—and it being attested by our Brother William Morris that these cases are worthy of our notice we recommend them to the benevolent attention of our Brethren.—

We request that our Brethren Mr. Samuel Brent—& 13. [Brentford.] Mr. Jno. Treacher do make some enquiry relative to the General Baptist Meeting House & its Premises at Brentford & make a their report at the next Assembly.—

*This Assembly taking into consideration the importance [Page 308.] of [7]Free Enquiry[7] into matters of Religion & having in our 14. ["Monthly Repository" recommended.] connection a periodical Work which for the exercise of this principle is not equalled (the [7]Monthly Repository[7] of Theology[7] & Literature[7]) think this Work ought to be patronised by all[7] our Churches & as it is probable that some of our friends [10]do not[10] know that such a work exists, and many intelligent members of the poorer class cannot afford to purchase it, we recommend that every Church should take a certain number of the Magazines for the use of their members in common; and that those individuals who are able would[10] also procure copies for the sake of circulation. It is also recommended that advertisements relative to our civil interest be sent for insertion on the Wrappers of the said Repository.—

It is earnestly requested that the Churches connected 15. [Attendance.] with this Assembly do attend the Assembly themselves or endeavor to send a Representative. And that such Elders & Representatives as are present do attend the place of Meeting at the time appointed & not[16] seperate till the business be finished.—

---

[15] The words, an account, follow and are cancelled.

[16] The word, to, follows and is cancelled.

16. We have to regret that several of our Churches are in the constant habit of neglecting this Assembly as we see neither Representatives nor Letters from them—it is particularly requested that these Churches would for the future pay this circumstance proper attention.—

17. Resolved[10] that Brother Wright of Wisbeach write the next Letter on [7]the exercise of Reason in matters of Religion.[7]

[Page 309.] 18. *The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street on Tuesday in Whitsun week 1807—

19. The Sermon to be preached by Brother Snelgrove of Lewes & in failure of him by Brother Bennett of Ditchling.—

20. [Hours of business and pleasure.] The business to begin at 7 O Clock public service at 11—& dine at 4. in the afternoon. [10]as business will be finished by this time—our friends are requested to be early & regular in their attendance during the former part of the day.[10]

21. It having been observed that we often perceive friends at the Assembly who are not known to us and in consequence of which are little noticed—it is recommended that any person knowing them will introduce them to the Chairman of the Assembly.—

The Book to be desposited in the hands of Brother Jno. Evans.—

Signed by order of the Assembly

B. Marten
Robt. Pyall
Stephen Philpot.

[Page 310 blank.]

[Page 311.] [1807, May 19.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General [1]Baptists by their Elders & Representatives held on Tuesday May 19th 1807 in Worship Street London.—

[Officers.] After seeking divine assistance Brother Sampson Kingsford was chosen Chairman Brethren Richard Wright & Joseph Dobell Moderators—[Members present.] Messengers present Brethren Sampson Kingsford John Evans Robert Pyall & Benjamin Marten.

---

[1] Originally, Assembly.

Churches	Elders	Representatives	£.	s.	d.
White Alley	John Simpson	John Marson & Jno. Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsely Down	William Moon	John Hughes Samuel Brent & Robt. Camppin	1.	1.	0
Glass House	John Evans	Jno. Treacher Wm. Titford and Timy. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliament Court	William Vidler	Wm. Baker & Charles Danel	1.	1.	0
Bessel's Green					
Cranbrook	Joseph Dobell	Wm. Buss	1.	1.	0
Ditchling Cukfield & Barcomb	Abrm. Bennet			7.	
Waldron					
Berkhamsted					
Hythe					
Horsham & Billingshurst		Letter			
Chatham		Jno. Baker[2] Thos Thomson & Jno. Pine		10.	
Headcorn	Robert Pyall		1.	1.	0
Canterbury	Sampsn. Kingsford	F. Kingsford P. Shrubsale	1.	1.	0
Smarden & Staplehurst				10.	6
Brentford		John Barrett		10.	6
Farnham					
Dover	Benjmn. Marten	Jno. Fuller Wm. Kingsford			
Chichester					
Portsmouth		Joseph Brent[2]	1.	1.	0
			10.	6.	.
Newport Isle of Wight		Letter			
Deal					
Melbourn					
*Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot			5.	. [Page 312.]
Leicester					
Ramsgate					
Horley					
Burnham					

---

[2] Originally classed as Elder.

Norwich	Matthew Dexter			5.	.
Ford & Aylesbury					
Lincolnshire Associatn.					
Leicestershire Do.					
Bourne					
Spalding					
Tunbridge Wells					
Lewes	Richard Snelgrove			7.	6
Brighton					
Wedmore					
Sutton		Mr. Smallfield			
		Mr. Cammack		8.	
Battle, Northiam, Rolvenden & Rye			1.	1.	0
Wisbeach	Richard Wright	Mr. Jackson		10	6
			13.	3.	.

1. The Minutes of the last Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed. It was agreed to continue the same resolutions for the regulation of the Assembly which have appeared in the former Proceedings.—

2. We have received no intelligence from America—but request the continuance of our correspondence with the General Baptists in that part of the World.—

3. [Changed form of Statistics.] Every [3]Minister is requested to send the Assembly the state of the Church as to the Increase[4] and Decrease[4] during the last year instead of the number of members.—This is a request to which we hope our Churches will pay particular attention.—

[Page 313.] 4. [Students] *The Treasurer of the [4]General Baptist Education Society[4] established by this Assembly in 1794 reports that [4]Mr. Bedlington Cook[4] from Swansea in South Wales & that [4]Mr. William Bricher[4] from Rolvenden near Tenterden in Kent are now on the Society and are making considerable improvement in those branches of Education suited to the Christian Ministry. It may also be mentioned that [4]Mr. [Long Sutton.] George Smallfield[4] finished his education at Christmas last & is now settled at Sutton in Lincolnshire where his services promise to be of considerable use to the General Baptist Cause in that part of the Country. It cannot fail of yielding gratification to the supporters & well wishers to our Society to hear that young Men are thus training up one after another for the promoting with greater ability & success the cause of Truth & righteousness. Our Churches are thus materially benefitted & we are furthering the glorious interests of pure & scriptural Christianity. So fully apprised are our Calvinistic Brethren of the utility of learning to Christian Ministers that not content with flourishing Academies they are now establishing a Grammar School by way of preparation for the Academy.[5] This should incite us to greater zeal & activity in the important business of Education[4] for the Christian Ministry persuaded that our cause is the best of Causes and it ought not to want those efforts on our part which when properly directed will ensure its wide & lasting diffusion throughout the World! We have in times past been too remiss in this particular but already feeling the good effects of such an Institution we shall be

---

[3] Originally, Church.

[4] Underlined.

[Calvinistic progress.]

---

[5] Baptists were the pioneers in organised effort to train for the ministry. The Presbyterians long flattered themselves that their exclusion from the universities was only temporary. Though many ejected ministers eked out a living by taking pupils, and some established Academies to prepare them for ordination, yet very few of these private ventures obtained any endowment or any assurance of continuity. Baptists never had any illusions about being comprehended in an Established Church, and though Samuel How had emphasized that humane learning was subordinate to the call of the Holy Spirit, they early showed that they were not hostile to it in itself. As early as 1675, several London ministers convened a meeting "to form a plan for the providing an orderly standing ministry in the church, who might give themselves to reading and study." Four years later, Edward Terrill, of Bristol, devoted large funds to maintain a pastor or teacher at Broadmead, well skilled in Greek and Hebrew, who should teach twelve young Baptists for three half days each week during two years each. By 1720, at latest, effective work began under this bequest, and is still continued at Bristol College. The Congregationalists followed with a Fund Academy in 1695, which, after amalgamation with other institutions, is now represented by New College at Hampstead. This apparently provoked White's Alley to urge on the General Baptists a similar scheme, which seemed to have dropped. In 1751 began a Western Congregational Academy. Professor Ward founded his trust three years later, with preference to Baptists; the present Airedale College originated 1756, Brecon in 1757, and the Countess of Huntingdon's (Cambridge) College in 1768. In the new century, the present Hackney was founded by Congregationalists, and Rawdon by Baptists, while Cardiff was just beginning this year. All these institutions belonged to "our Calvinistic brethren," but there were by this time a few Presbyterian-Unitarian colleges, such as Carmarthen, Hackney, and Manchester; while Dan Taylor had trained already 14 students at Mile End, under the auspices of the New Connexion. The particular combined Grammar School and Academy here spoken of was placed at Manchester by the Congregationalists; but the experiment was abandoned in four years.

disposed to do everything in our power towards the promotion of so useful & excellent a Work. For a list of [Report annexed.] Annual Subscriptions[4] to this Institution & of the Collections made by [6]several of our Churches & transmitted to us by the Ministers the Reader is referred to the Account of the [4]Education Society[4] attached to these Proceedings & we trust that the list will be annually augmenting as its object [Page 314.] is so truly deserving *attention.[7] The Assembly appoint the [Collectors.] following gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer Mr. Jno. Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary the Revd. John Evans Pullin's Row Islington—Mr. Vidler 187 High Holborn—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury—Mr. B. Marten Dover—Mr. Bennet Ditchling—Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook—Mr. R. Pyall Headcorn—Mr. R. Wright Wisbeach Mr. Dexter Norwich—Mr. Jacob Dobell & Mr. Daniel Hosmer Smarden & Staplehurst —Mr. H. Brown Lewes Mr. Jno. Jeffrey Billingshurst & Steyning—Mr. Sadler Horsham—Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden —Mr. Mills Portsmouth—Mr. T. Cooke Isle of Wight—Dr. Toulmin Birmingham & Mr. Job David Taunton. It is earnestly hoped that these gentlemen will continue to exert themselves with zeal & unremitting activity. The Assembly also recommend to all[4] the Churches to preach an Annual[4] Sermon in favour of the [4]Education Society[4] and transmit their Collections raised at those services to the ensuing Assembly.

5. [Waldron.] Mr. Pyall reported that he together with Mr. B. Dobell according to the appointment of the General Assembly visited [Page 315.] Waldron Church & hope that in consequence *of their visit they were encouraged & will go on more prosperously.

6. [Printed invitation to negligent churches.] Recommended that a Letter be drawn up by Brethren J. Evans & J. Marsom—& that this Letter be printed & sent to the several Churches who neglect to send either Representatives or Letter to the General Assembly wishing them to keep up their connection with the Assembly by Letter if they are unable to send Representatives.—[8]Postage to be paid out of the Messenger's fund.[8]—

---

[6] Originally, the.

[7] Neither in 1806, nor now, was the report annexed to the original written minutes; the reference is to the printed edition, whose increasing size and expense attracted attention this year.

[8] Inserted.

As to the Welsh Churches we are sorry to have received no communication from them.— 7.

The General Baptist Church at Hull under the care of Brother Robert Blake requests admission to our Assembly we postpone it according to our usual custom till the next Assembly.— 8. [Hull.]

B 9

Mr. Samuel Brent & Mr. Jno. Treacher have made enquiries respecting Brentford Church—and have to say that the Writings will be procured & the trust filled up—which it was the object of this enquiry.— 9. [Brentford.]

The Letter on [4]the Exercise of Reason in matters of Religion[4] by our Brother Wright was read & ordered to be printed.— 10. [Circular Letter.]

Brother Bennet of Ditchling preached a Sermon from Matt. 22. 42.— 11.

The Assembly recommends that the statement of the two Cases respecting Dover Church on both sides be submitted to the Committee for *the protection of the Civil Rights of the Protestant Dissenters in London and that each party abide by the decision of that Committee. — 12. [Dover arbitration.] [Page 316.]

As the Baptising of Persons on profession of Faith is a grand article by which we are distinguished from other professors of Religion we think the more we make it a subject of conversation & of preaching the more our cause will be established. 13. [Baptism.]

We propose to the Churches in general the following rule long since stated & recommended by the Kentish Association—that when a Member finds it necessary to remove his or her situation that such Member be furnished with a Testimonial of being such & recommended to their Christian care & Communion.— 14. [Written transfers to be granted.]

It was proposed & recommended that the expences of Printing the Assembly Proceedings be equally paid out of the Minister Messenger's & Fund of the Education Society.[9] 15. [Expense of printing.]

[8]The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street on Tuesday in the Whitsun week 1808.[8] 16.[8]

---

[9] This minute has been much altered. It once ran, paid out of these funds; three words were cancelled and then it ran, paid out of the ministers the; then it was altered as it now stands, ungrammatical but intelligible. The Messengers' Fund was not the Pierce John's endowment, over which the Assembly never claimed jurisdiction, but the Voluntary Subscription Fund, whose accounts are given at the head.

17. [10]The Sermon to be preached by Brother Snelgrove of Lewes & in failure of him by Brother Wright of Wisbeach.—

18. [11]The Business to begin at Seven O Clock—Public Service at Eleven & dine at Four. As business will be finished by this time our friends are requested to be early & regular in their attendance during the former part of the day.

Samp. Kingsford
R. Wright
Joseph Dobell

[Page 317.] [1808, June 7.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptists by their Elders & Representatives held on Tuesday June 7. 1808. in Worship Street London.

[Officers.] After seeking divine assistance Brother Joseph Dobell was chosen Chairman[1]—Brethren Stephen Philpot & [2]Robert Pyall Moderators[1]—Messengers Brethren John Evans Robert Pyall Benjamin Marten & Sampson Kingsford.

[Members present.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
White Alley	John Simpson	Jno. Marsom Jno. Grice	1.	1.	0
Horsely Down	Wm. Moon	Jno. Brent Jno. Hughes Saml. Brent & Robt. Camppin	1.	1.	0
Glass House Yard	Jno. Evans	J. Treacher W. Titford T. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliament Court	Wm. Vidler	B. Baker J. Roberts	1.	1.	
Bessel's Green					
Cranbrook	Benjn. Dobell	Joseph Dobell Wm. Buss Danl. Dobell & Wm. Dobell Junr.	1.	1.	
Ditchling Cuckfield	Abraham Bennet	James Brown		7.	
Waldron		a Report			
Berkhamsted					

---

[10] This was at first numbered, 16.

[11] This was at first numbered, 17.

[1] Underlined.

[2] Originally, Mr.

Hythe					
Horsham & Billinghurst		John Jeffery			
Chatham		Thos. Thompson & Jno. Saxton			
Headcorn		Jno. Coupland	1.	1.	
Canterbury		F. J. Kingsford & Michl. Kingsford	1.	1.	
Smarden & Staplehurst				10.	6
Brentford				10.	6
Farnham	Jno. Ellis			10.	6
			9.	5.	6
Dover					
Wingham					
	*Brought over		9.	5.	6 [Page 318.]
Chichester					
Portsmouth	Ebenezer Withers		1.	1.	
Newport					
Isle of Wight					
Deal					
Milborn					
Saffron Walden				2.	6
Leicester	Case of Contribution				
Ramsgate					
Horley					
Burnham					
Norwich		a Letter		10.	6
Ford & Aylesbury					
Leicestershire	Do.[3]				
Bourne					
Spalding					
Tunbridge Wells					
Lewes				13.	

---

[3] Above this once appeared, Lincolnshire Association. The deletion of this, while other churches and even the "Leicestershire Association" are still entered though not represented, suggests that news had arrived that the Association was defunct, as the Assembly acknowledged two years later. Of the separate churches, Bourn and Spalding had joined the New Connexion in 1799, with Gamston; Gosberton, Killingholm, Kirton, Maltby, and Wisbech had followed Boston even earlier; Knipton and Peterborough had followed in 1801. Lincoln, we know, was in Calvinistic hands. There remained Burgh and Monksthorp, Coningsby and Tattershall, Crowle, Epworth and Butterwick, Fleet, Louth (almost extinct), March, Misterton, Tetney. Deprived of their natural centres at Boston, Lincoln, Peterborough, and Spalding, they seem not to have kept up their meetings. Ten years later, Adam Taylor had obtained possession of their early records.

Brighton	a Letter			
Wedmore				
Sutton	a Report by Brother Wright		6.	6
Battle Northiam Rolvenden & Rye	Stephen Blundell	1.	1.	0
Wisbeach			10.	6
		12.	9.	6

1st. The Minutes of the last Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed. It was agreed to continue the same Resolutions for the regulation of the Assembly which have appeared in the former Proceedings.

2nd. [Page 319.] We have received no intelligence from America at least none of an official[1] *nature—but request the continuance of our correspondence with the General Baptists in that part of the World.

3rd. [Waldron.] With respect to Waldron Church—Mr. Bennett reports that agreeably to the desire of the last Assembly he has visited them found them in a very low state nor does there seem at present anything to be done but we recommend that some neighboring Minister continue to visit them. In the mean time we have requested Brethren Pyall & Buss to write to Mr. Saunders on the subject.

4th. [Wales.] As to the Welsh Churches we must again express our regret that we have received no communications from them but we recommend our Brother Evans to write to Mr. [4]Benjamin Phillips begging him to send us some account of the number & state of the Welsh Generl. Baptist Churches against our next Assembly.

5th. Recommended that a Letter be drawn up by Brethren J. Evans & J. Marsom—& that this Letter be printed & sent to the several Churches who neglect to send either Representatives or Letter to the General Assembly wishing them to keep up their connection with the Assembly by Letter if they are unable to send Representatives. Postage to be paid out of the Messenger's Fund.

6. [Page 320.] Every Minister is requested to send the Assembly the state of the Church as to the *increase & decrease during the last year instead of the number of Members. This is a request to which we hope our Churches (especially after they have received the above Letter) will pay particular

---

[4] Originally, William Thomas.

attention. At the same time we are happy to say that on a general view of Churches & Members this year—we conclude the increase of both is very considerable.

7. [Western Association.] It was resolved that this Assembly will be glad to receive an annual[1] communication from the Western Association of General Baptists & that Brother Evans be requested to inform them thro' the medium of Brother Jones of Trowbridge.[5]

8. [Hull admitted.] Agreed that the General Baptist Church at Hull under the care of Brother Robert Blake be admitted to our Assembly.[6]

8. The case of Dispute with the Church at Dover not having been mentioned to the Committee of the Civil rights of the Dissenters—Brother Titford is appointed to make a statement of it to them.

10. [Students.] The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society reports that [1]Mr. Bedlington Cook[1] of Swansea & [1]Mr. George Pound[1] of Dover are now on the Society—the former finishes this Midsummer & means to return to the Principality. *In [Page 321.] his room we expect [1]Mr. William Jones[1] of Salem near Carmarthen in South Wales—[7]being Member of the General Baptist Church under the care of Mr. B. Phillips.[7] Mr. William Bricher had one [8]One year's Education on the Society—but ill health has we are sorry to say prevented his continuance. Were our finances more extensive there can be no doubt of the Institution becoming still more useful

---

[5] In 1755 the old Western Association was marked as dissolved. This may be a new one, formed out of Unitarian Baptist congregations, derived either from Particular or General Baptist sources. Daniel Jones has a typical history, which may illustrate the evolution. Hailing from Carmarthenshire, member of a Calvinistic Baptist church at Panteg, educated under Caleb Evans at Bristol, he settled in 1792 at Back Lane, Swansea. As has been already noted, many Calvinistic Baptist churches in the district were inclining to Unitarianism, and Jones leaned in this direction. He went in 1800 to the Baptist church at Trowbridge, which had originally been in fellowship with the Calvinistic Assembly and Association, but had been affected by the Exeter movement, had lost a few Trinitarian members in 1736, and had joined the General Baptist Western Association, and then the Unitarian Association in 1794. In this district he was now busy propagating Unitarian views and organising.

[6] The Particular Baptist church at George Street, in Hull, had, in 1807, lost its minister, James Lyons, because of his Socinian views. He had come from Plymouth, where they were rife.

[7] Inserted.

[8] Originally, half-year's.

to the Connection. We have a greater number of applications than we can attend to—& we are unwilling to refuse any promising young Man whose talents call for improvement. We hope therefore that the friends of Education will come forward & exert themselves in behalf of so valuable an Institution. In this respect our Calvinistic[1] Brethren set us an example worthy of imitation. Our Cause is good—too good to be neglected as it has been for years past. We are however now receiving & an [1]enlightened zeal,[1] fitting pious young men for the better discharge of the duties of the Ministry cannot fail of diffusing our scriptural principles & practices among Mankind.

Education Report annexed.] For a list of [1]Annual Subscriptions[1] to this Institution & of the Collections made by several of our Churches & transmitted to us by the Ministers the Reader is referred to the Account of the [1]Education Society[1] attached to these Proceedings & we trust that the list will be annually augmenting as its object is so truly deserving attention.

[Page 322.] [Collectors,] *The Assembly appoints the following gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer [1]Mr. John Treacher[1] No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary the Revd. Jno. Evans Pullin's Islington—Mr. Vidler 187 High Holborn Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury Mr. B. Marten Dover—Mr. A. Bennet Dichling Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook Mr. R. Pyall Headcorn Mr. R. Wright Wisbeach—Mr. Dexter Norwich Mr. Jacob Dobell & Mr. D. Hosmar Smarden & Staplehurst Mr H. Brown Lewes Mr. John Jeffrey Billinghurst & Steyning Mr. Sadler Horsham Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden Mr. Mills Portsmouth Mr. T. Cook Isle of Wight Dr. Toulmin Birmingham & Mr. Job David Taunton. It is earnestly hoped that those gentlemen will continue to exert themselves with zeal & unremitting assiduity. The Assembly also recommend to all[1] the Churches to preach an annual[1] Sermon in favour of the [1]Education Society[1] & transmit their Collections raised at those services to the ensuing Assembly.

11. Brother R. Wright of Wisbeach preached from 1 Phil 17 [1]I am set for the defence of the Gospel.[1]

12. [Page 323.] We propose to the Churches in general *the following rule long since stated & recommended by the Kentish Association that when a Member finds it necessary to remove his or her situation that such Member be furnished with a testimonial of being such & [7]of being[7] recommended [7]by them[7] to their Christian care & communion.

It is agreed that the Reply to Mr. Peter Edwards on Baptism[1] lately published by our brother [1]Joseph Dobell[1] be recommended to our connection as tending to place [1]Adult Baptism[1] in a very[7] just & proper point of view.[9] [7]Indeed it is a publication of peculiar importance and utility.[7] 13.

Agreed that Brother [1]John Jeffrey[1] preach at the next Assembly & in case of failure [1]Mr. George Smallfield[1] of Sutton. 14.

The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street Tuesday in the Whitsun Week 1809. 15.

The Business to commence at Seven O Clock Public Service at Eleven & dine at Four. And whereas it has been observed that our Ministers & Representatives have not met at the time appointed by which circumstance the business of the Assembly has been retarded to the great inconvenience of our friends we particularly request that the persons concerned in the business of the Assembly will make good their places at 7 O Clock and proceed at eight to Breakfast. 16.

Robt. Pyall { Joseph Dobell
Stephen Philpot

[Page 324.] [1809, May 23.] [Worship Street]

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptist Churches by their Elders and Representatives held on Tuesday the 23. May. 1809. in Worship Street London.

[Officers.] [Members present.]

After seeking divine assistance, Brother Samn. Kingsford was chosen Chairman, Brethren Sten. Philpot and Richd. Wright Moderators. Messengers Brethren John Evans, Sampson Kingsford, Robt. Pyall & Benjn. Marten.

Churches.	Elders.	Representatives	£	s.	d.
White's Alley	John Simpson	J. Marsom J. Grice	1.	1.	0
Horseley Down	Wm. Moon	Saml. Brent R. Camppin J. Brent J. Hughes	1.	1.	0

---

[9] Peter Edwards had been a Baptist at Portsmouth, and in 1790 had put out a little pamphlet there. But five years later he published "Candid Reasons for renouncing the Principles of Anti-pædobaptism, &c.," which tract had by now gone through seven editions. Joseph Dobell, of Cranbrook, in 1807 issued some "Remarks on P. Edwards's Arguments, &c."

Glass House Yard	John Evans	J. Treacher Wm. Titford J. Buck	1.	1.	0
Parliment Court	Willm. Vidler	B. Baker	1.	1.	0
Bessels Green	Neither Representative nor Letter				
Cranbrook		Josh. Dobell Wm. Buss Isaac Titford Wm. Ranger	1.	1.	0
Dichling Cuckfield	Abm. Bennet			7.	0
Waldron					
Berkhampsted[1]					
Hythe					
Horsham & Billinghurst					
Chatham					
Headcorn	Robt. Pyall	John Coupland	1.	1.	0
[Page 325.] *Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford	Letter	1.	1.	0
Smarden & Staplehurst	2 Letters				
Brentford		John Barrett	0.	10.	6
Farnham	John Ellis				
Dover	Benjn. Marten		1.	1.	0
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth	Letter		0.	11.	6
Coningsby	Letter				
Newport Isle of Wight					
Deal					
Melbourn					
Saffron Walden	S. Philpot				
Leicester					
Ramsgate					
Horley					
Burnham					
Norwich	Letter				
Ford & Aylesbury					
Leicestershire Association					
Bourne					
Spalding					

---

[1] Berkhampsted this year joined the New Connexion, with its pastor, Joseph Hobbs, who had come from Chatham in 1802, after a disruption of the old church. He and Edward Sexton, of Chesham, were now busy in the district, so that the Ford and Aylesbury causes mentioned below were revived, but were taken into the New Connexion.

Tunbridge Wells			
Lewes	Letter		0. 14. 0
Brighton	Letter		
Wedmore			
Sutton	Letter	John Roberts Chrisr. Cammock	
Battle Northiam and Rolvenden	Thos. Payne[2]		1. 8. 0
Hull	a Report		
Wisbeach	R. Wright a Report	R. Wright	0. 11. 6

*The Minutes of the last Year's Proceedings were read and confirmed. It was agreed to continue the same regulations of the Assembly, which have appeared in the former Proceedings. [Page 326.] 1st.

We are still without intelligence from America, but the Assembly still earnestly requests its members to procure information from that quarter, against the next General Assembly. 2ndly.

We again request that our brethren Robt. Pyall & Wm. Buss will continue to bear the case of Waldron Church upon their minds. 3dly.

To our surprise and regret we have received no communication from our Bror. Benjn. Phillips in Wales[3] we therefore request that the Association be written to by Bror. Evans that they would for the future send an account of their Proceedings to the Assembly. 4thly.

The Letter drawn up by Bror. Evans & Marsom according to the third Article of the Proceedings of 1808 is printed and the Ministers are requested to take with them a few for distribution among our Churches throughout the Kingdom. Any communications from these Churches may be addressed to J. Evans No. 7 Pullins Row Islington Secretary to the Assembly. It is also expected that mention will be made the next Assembly to what Churches these Letters have been sent. 5th.

*We are sorry that we have received this year neither Representatives nor Letters from the following Churches[4] (viz) [Page 327.] 6thly. [Absentees.]

---

[2] Originally entered as for Battle only.

[3] Originally there followed, though our Bror. Evans had written to him on the subject.

[4] Apparently many churches were tired of writing or sending to an Assembly, which had let its proceedings fall into a groove, and undertook no corporate work. The contrast with the energy of the New Connexion at home, and of the Particular Baptists abroad, was not taken to heart.

[5]Bessels Green, Horsham, Chichester Waldron, Berkhamsted, Deal, Melbourn & Fulbourn, Leicester, Ramsgate, Horley, Burnham, Ford & Aylesbury, Bourne, Spalding, Chatham & Wedmore.[5]

7. From the accounts of the several Churches sent to the Assembly we are happy to say that generally speaking the increase both of Churches and of Members this year is considerable.

8. The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society reports that [5]Mr. George Culmer[6] Pound[5] of Dover [5]Mr. John Williams[7] Morris[5] & [5]Mr. William Jones[5] are now upon the Society & will soon be at liberty to settle with those of our Churches who are in want of Ministers. We have never before had more than two[5] young Men—this being commensurate with the finances. We trust therefore that having thus extended the number of Pupils—the generosity will be likewise extended. Indeed we are every year the more confirmed in our opinion that the Education of Young Men for the Ministry is a most essential measure in the supporting & promoting the General Baptist Connection. It is a certain fact that the [5]Particular Baptists[5] & Independents[5] have near a hundred[5] young Men educating for the Ministry! Hence one principal reason of their prosperity in different parts of the Kingdom. In this respect therefore let us imitate them. Young Men of talents learning & piety are certain of being useful in diffusing abroad the Religion of the New Testament —Reason & Revelation are equally the gifts of Heaven & [Page 328.] will finally enlighten & bless the World. *For a list of [5]Annual Subscriptions[5] to this Institution & of the Collections[5] made by several of our Churches & transmitted to us by the Ministers the Reader is referred to the Account of the Education Society attached to these Proceedings—& we trust that the list will be annually augmenting as its object is [Collectors.] so truly worthy attention. The Assembly appoint the following gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer Mr. Jno. Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary—The Revd. Jno. Evans Pullin's Row Islington Mr. Vidler Westham—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury —Mr. B. Marten Dover—Mr. A. Bennet Dichling Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook Mr. R. Pyall Headcorn Mr. R. Wright

---

[5] Underlined.

[6] Inserted.

[7] Originally, William.

Wisbeach Mr. J. Dobell & Mr. Hosmer Smarden & Staplehurst Mr. H. Brown Lewes Mr. Jno. Jeffrey Billinghurst & Steyning—Mr. Sadler Horsham Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden Mr. Mills Portsmouth Mr. T. Cooke Isle of Wight Dr. Toulmin Birmingham & Mr. Job David Taunton. It is hoped these gentlemen will continue to exert themselves with zeal & assiduity. The Assembly also recommend to all[5] the Churches to preach an Annual[5] Sermon in favour of the Education Society & transmit their Collections raised at those services to the ensuing Assembly. Such contributions however small will be thankfully received by the [8]Society.

[Page 329.] 9. *A Sermon was preached by Bror. John Jeffrey from Ecclesiastes 13. 6 which will be printed.

10. [Cranbrook building fund.] The Cranbrook Church stated to the Assembly that the expense attending the erecction of their place of worship has exceeded their expectation, and they are obliged to solicit the kind aid of sister Churches, we hope therefore that as the Cranbrook Church have always been ready on such occasions to contribute to the assistance of others[9] so now we trust that a generous hand will be opened when solicited for their assistance in that good work.

11. [Lewes.] We have to state that a Minister is wanted at Lewes in Sussex.

12. [Tracts on baptism.] In addition to the efforts of our denomination in union with other friends of Rational religion we recommend frequent conversation and plain preaching on the subject of Baptism[5] and also the reading of such tracts as are calculated to advance the truth concerning that gospel Ordinance, particularly the small pieces of [10]W. Richards[10] D. Taylor S. Kingsford J. Dobell. W. Kingsford &c.

13. [Hull building fund.] As to the Church at Hull, we recommend that Bror. Wright should go round to the different Churches and collect for the defraying the expences attending the erection of their New Chapel.

14. [Open communion allowable.] With respect to the case from Northiam, this Assembly thinks that every individual Church must Judge for itself concerning open communion; several churches practice open and several strict communion in our connection—the former admitting persons who are not baptized by immersion as [5]communicants only[5] but not Members of the Church.

---

[8] The word, Education, precedes and is cancelled.

[9] The word, Churches, follows and is cancelled.

[10] This name is transposed from last but one.

[Page 330.] 15. *Agreed that Brother Smallfield[5] preach at the next Assembly & in case of failure Brother [5]John Evans[5] of London.

16. The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street Tuesday in the Whitsun-Week 1810.

17. The Business to commence at Seven[5] O Clock—public service at Eleven[5] & dine at Four.[5] It having been observed that both Ministers & Representatives have not met at the time appointed by which the business of the Assembly has been in no small degree retarded to the great inconvenience of our friends—we particularly request that the persons concerned will make good their places at Seven O Clock & proceed at eight to Breakfast.

Sampson Kingsford
Stephen Philpot
Richard Wright.

[Page 331.] [1810, June 12.] [Worship Street] *The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptist Churches by their Elders & Representatives held on Tuesdy. the 12th of June 1810 in Worship Street London.

[Officers.] [Members present.] After seeking divine assistance Brother Benjamin Marten was chosen Chairman—Brethren Wm. Vidler & Stephen Philpot Moderators Messengers Brethren Sampson Kingsford John Evans Robt. Pyall & Benjn. Marten.

Churches	Elders	Representatives.		
White Alley	John Simpson	Jno. Grice & David Eaton	1.	1.
Horsely Down	William Moon	Jno. Brent Jno. Hughes Saml. Brent Robt. Camppin	1.	1.
Glass House Yard	John Evans	J. Treacher W. Titford Buck & Jos. Weald[1]	1.	1.
Parliament Court	Wm. Vidler	B. Baker	1.	1.
Bessels Green		Jno. Steward Wm. Burgass		
Cranbrook		Wm. Buss Jeremh. Pethurst	1.	1.
Dichling Cuckfield	Abrm. Bennett			7.

---

[1] This name was added.

Waldron	a Letter				
Berkhampsted					
Hythe					
Horsham & Billinghurst					
Chatham	a Letter	Jno. Sexton			
Headcorn	Robert Pyall	Jn. Coupland	1.	1.	
Canterbury	Sampson Kingsford	A Letter	1.	1.	
Smarden & Staplehurst	a Letter			10.	
Brentford		Jno. Barrett		10.	6
Farnham		Jno. Ellis	1.	.	.
Dover	Benjamn. Marten	Wm. Kingsford Jno. Igglesden			
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth		Ebenzr. Withers	1.	1.	
Coningsby	a Letter	Thos. Small			
Newport Isle of Wight	a Letter				
Deal					
*Melborn		a Letter			
Saffron Walden	Stephen Philpot				
Leicester					
Ramsgate[2]					
Nutfield[3]		Jno. Hale		10.	6
Burnham					

[Page 332.]

---

[2] Ramsgate this year executed extensive repairs, costing £134 10s. 5½d. It was the last sign of energy for some time. The subsequent history is in brief:—On the death of Thomas Christophers, in 1842, it was found needful to examine into the state of the church and its funds. Eleven members were resident, one at Canterbury and one at Sandwich. A new service was instituted in the morning, so that by 1846 an average attendance of three or four could be recorded; and two were baptised in 1844, after the baptistery had been repaired. A school was opened in 1848, and by 1855 the total membership rose to thirteen, of whom seven were non-resident. The Birchington chapel was leased to the Primitive Methodists, and ultimately sold as a new Baptist chapel had been built there (by the hyper-Calvinists ?); the proceeds put the Ramsgate premises again in repair. The endowments were invested in a mortgage on Worship Street, and a loan to Sevenoaks, which apparently were put into Government stock by J. C. Means. In 1884 the eight members formally disbanded, and the ancient cause ceased to exist. All the time it had been crippled by the premises being microscopic, and hidden away in an obscure court.

[3] Originally, Horley or Nutfield. Mr. John Hale ordered six copies of the proceedings to be sent to him at Doghurst Farm, near Bletchingly, by Taylor's waggon to Knutfield in Surrey. A note to this effect is on the inside of the cover of the book.

Norwich	a Letter		1.	1.	0
Ford & Aylesbury					
Leicestershire Associatn.					
Bourne					
Spalding					
Tunbridge Wells					
Lewes	a Letter	Abrm. Bennett		14.	
Brighton		Abrm. Bennett		7.	
Wedmore					
Sutton	a Letter			8.	
Battle		Thos. Bricher	1.	1.	0
Northiam[4]				7.	
Rolvenden				7.	
Hull	a Letter				
Wisbeach	Richard Wright			5.	
			15.	16.	.

1st. The Minutes of the last[5] Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed. It was agreed to continue the same regulations of the Assembly which have appeared in the[6] Proceedings—of 1806 and we think it necessary *to repeat our recommendation respectg. strangers[5] from the Country that they be introduced to the Chairman of[7] the Assembly—so that every proper attention be paid them. [Page 333.]

2. [James Fenn and America.] We are still without intelligence from America but the Assembly earnestly requests its members to procure information from that quarter. We are happy to find that our friend Revd. Mr. Fenn[8] still living & hope to hear from him on some future occasion respecting the number & state of the Generaf Baptists in that remote quarter of the World.

3. [Waldron declining.] Brethren Pyall & Buss have visited Waldron Church—& we have received a Letter from them from which it appears that they have been long declining—about 20 members—

---

[4] There was some uncertainty as to the status of Northiam and Rolvenden; the entry began as if they formed one church with Battle, and was then corrected; contrast last year.

[5] Underlined.

[6] Originally, the former Proceedings—viz., of 1806.

[7] Repeated in error.

[8] The name was caught wrongly at first. James Fenn, of Deal, in 1770 had left the Assembly with his church of 21 members, but had rejoined in 1783. Eleven years later he went to America with official credentials, and in 1797 returned, reporting many General Baptists not organised.

who on account of age & distance seldom meet—it is recommended that they elect Mr. Sanders to the Eldership—choose two Deacons from their own body & call into their assistance the occasional labours of Mr. T. Payne of Burwash.

We have received an Account of the Welsh[5] Association from our Brother William Thomas with wch. we were much pleased & beg him to continue this annual communication to our Assembly. 4. [Welsh Association.]

From the Accounts sent this year to the Assembly of our respective Churches—we learn that[9] General Baptists are on the increase especially in the Principality of Wales —indeed the prospect in general is much more favourable than on any former occasion. 5. [Progress.]

*The Treasurer of the General Baptist Education Society reports that Mr. George Culmer Pound having finished his studies at Midsummer last is now settled at Dover where assisting our Brother Marten his services are [10]acceptable & useful. We have still on the Society two[5] young men [5]Mr. William Jones[5] & [5]Mr. Jno. Morris[5] the former of whom is going to Chichester with the view of settling there & the latter is invited to supply the Church at Lewes during the Vacation as his time will not expire till Christmas. We beg leave to state that in our last annual[5] report we had three[5] on the Institution but we again reduced to two[5] by the scantiness of our finances. This fact will we trust have its proper effect with the intelligent & liberal amongst us—for we are more & more persuaded that the education of Young Men for the Ministry is the most effectual way of supporting & extending the General Baptist Connection. Every other denomination is fully apprised of the utility of Learning to Ministers & due attention to it among ourselves will be followed by the happiest effects. A list of annual subscriptions to this Institution & of Collections by our Churches will be found at the end of these Proceedings—and the augmentation of that List must afford to every well wisher to the General Baptist cause *no small gratification. The Assembly appoints the following gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer Mr. Jno. Treasurer[11] No. 43 Paternosterow or to the Secretary the Revd. J. Evans [Page 334.] 6. [Students.] [Dover.] [Page 335.] [Collectors.]

---

[9] The word, them, followed and is partly erased.

[10] Originally, very acceptable.

[11] Slip for, Treacher.

Pullin's Row Islington—Mr. Vidler Westham—Mr. S. Kingsford Canterbury Mr. B. Marten Dover—Mr. A. Bennett Dichling—Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook Mr. R. Pyall Headcorn—Mr. R Wright Wisbeach—Mr. J. Dobell & Mr. D. Hosmer Smarden & Staplehurst—Mr. H. Brown Lewes—Mr. Jn Jeffery Billingshurst & Steyning—Mr. Sadler Horsham—Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden—Mr. Mills Portsmouth Mr. T. Cooke Isle of Wight—Dr. Toulmin Birmingham & Mr. Job David Taunton. We have to thank these Gentlemen for their past exertions & to entreat the further exercise of their zeal & assiduity. The Assembly also recommend to all[5] the Churches to preach an annual[5] Sermon in favour of the [5]Education Society[5] & transmit their Collections raised at those services to the ensuing Assembly. Such Contributions however inconsiderable will be thankfully received by the Society.

7. A Sermon was preached on the [5]Importance of Learning to Christian Ministers[5] by Brother George Smallfield from Matthew V.

16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

[Page 336.] 8. [Death of Stephen Lowdell.] *Mr. Evans reports that in Novbr. last the Church under his care at Worship Street lost its most aged & truly venerable Member [5]Mr. Stephen Lowdell[5] in the 93th year of his age—his zeal & ability for upwards of half a Century in promoting the interests of the General Baptists entitle him to this distinct notice in our Minutes—and Mr. Evans begs leave to state that he has thrown off an additional number of his [5]Address delivered at his Interment with the view of presenting a dozen[5] Copies to every Church in the Connection —as a tribute of respect to his memory.[12]

9. [Cranbrook.] With respect to Cranbrook Church we have appointed Messrs. John Evans Sampson Kingsford Robert Pyall Stephen Philpot & Abraham Bennett to make a collection for defraying the remaining Sum incurred by the erection of a place of Worship amongst them.[13]

---

[12] Unfortunately no copy of this address seems accessible. His record can be traced in these pages from 1748.

[13] Since 1780 a Particular Baptist church had divided the forces in Cranbrook. The new home of the ancient church was on High Street, and when the burial-ground at Speldhurst was sold for a garden, some old tombstones were brought here. The church at last dissolved owing to doctrinal troubles, and the proceeds of the chapel—£700—went to help the five nearest General Baptist churches, and the Education Fund.

As to the Church at Hull Brother Wright has made some progress—and will continue to exert himself till the business be completed. 10. [Hull.]

*Agreed that Brother [5]John Evans[5] of London preach at the next Assembly & in case of failure Brother Coupland of Headcorn. [Page 337.] 11.

It was moved & carried—1. that our Brethren R. Wright & S. Philpot be commissioned from the Assembly to visit any Churches in the General Baptist Connection North of the Metropolis that may request their assistance—the expences to be paid from the Messenger's Fund—and 2. that the Churches in Lincolnshire & the neighbourhood be consulted about the utility of ordaining Messengers for their service & also on the propriety of reviving the General Baptist Association of Lincolnshire. 12. [Attempts to revive Lincolnshire Association.]

The Church at Soham in Cambridgeshire under the care of Brother Gisborne & the Church at Ipswich under the care of Mr. Jackson request union with the Assembly—this is as usual referred to the consideration of the Churches against the ensuing Assembly. 13. [Soham and Ipswich.]

The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street Tuesday in the Whitsun Week 1811. 14.

We have to report that the General Baptist Churches at [5]Chatham Lewes Sutton & Coningsby[5] are in want of Ministers. 15.

The business of the next Assembly to commence at Seven O Clock in the Morning—Public Service at Eleven and dine at Four. It having been *observed that both Ministers & Representatives have not met at the time appointed by which the business of the Assembly has been retarded to the great inconvenience of our friends we particularly request that the Persons concerned will make good their places at Seven O Clock & proceed at Eight to Breakfast. 16. [Page 338.]

B. Marten Chairman
Wm. Vidler }
Stephen Philpot } Moderators

*The Proceedings of the General Assembly of the General Baptist Churches by their Elders & Representatives held on Tuesday June 4. 1811 in Worship Street London. [Page 338.] [1811, June 4.] [Worship Street]

After seeking divine assistance Brother Philpot was chosen Chairman—Brethren Bennet & Wright Moderators— [Officers.]

[Members present.]

Messengers Brethren Benjamin Dobell[1] John Evans Sampson Kingsford Robert Pyall & Benjamin Marten.

[Page 339.]

Churches	Elders	Representatives			
Whites Alley	Jno. Simpson	J. Grice			
		T. Marsom	1.	1.	0
Horsely Down	W. Moon	J. Brent			
		J. Hughes			
		S. Brent and			
		R. Campion	1.	1.	
Glass House Yard	J. Evans	J. Treacher			
		W. Titford			
		T. Buck	1.	1.	
Parliament Court	W. Vidler	B. Baker	1.	1.	
Bessels Green		Jno. Steward			
			4.	4.	
	*Brot. forwd.		4.	4.	
Cranbrook	Benj. Dobel	W. Buss			
		Joseph Dobell	1.	1.	
Ditchling Cuckfield	Abm. Bennett			7.	
Waldron					
Berkhamstead					
Hythe					
Horsham { Billinghurst			1.		
Chatham	a Letter	Joseph Seaton			
Headcorn	R. Pyall		1.	1.	0
Canterbury	S. Kingsford	Flavs. Kingsford	1.	1.	
Smarden & Staplehurst					
Brentford		Joseph Weald		10.	6
Farnham Worpplesdon & Godalming[2]		Mr. Ellis & Mr. Joseph Brent	1.		
Dover		B. Marten			
Wingham					
Chichester					
Portsmouth		James Brent	1.	1.	
Coningsby	Letter	T. Small			
Newport Isle of Wight		Letter			

---

[1] Dobell's name originally stood second to Evans.

[2] These names were subsequently numbered, Worpplesdon 1, Farnham 2, and Godalming 3.

Deal					
Melbourn					
Saffron Walden	S. Philpot			5.	
Leicester					
Ramsgate					
Nutfield[3]		Jno. Hale	1.		
Norwich[4]		a Letter			
Tunbridge Wells					
	Forwd.		12.	10.	6
	*Br. forwd.		12.	10.	6 [Page 340.]
Lewes		J. W. Morris		10.	6
Brighton		J. Francis			
Wedmore					
Sutton		C. Cammack		7.	
Battle		Stephn. Blundell	1.	1.	
Northiam Rolvenden		Letter[5]		12.	
Hull					
Wisbeach	R. Wright				
			15.	1.	

The Minutes of the last[6] Year's Proceedings were read & confirmed. It was agreed to continue the same Regulations of the Assembly which have appeared in the Proceedings of 1806 & we think it necessary to repeat our recommendation respecting strangers[6] from the Country that they be introduced to the Chairman of the Assembly so that proper attention be paid them. 1st.

We are still without intelligence from America but the Assembly earnestly requests its members to procure information from that distant[7] quarter.[8] 2.

With respect to Waldron Church we are sorry to learn that our Recommendation mentioned in our last Proceedings have not been carried into effect. 3.

We regret that we have received no information from 4,

---

[3] The name, Burnham, was entered next, and cancelled.

[4] Four antiquated entries were made next, and cancelled:—Ford & Aylesbury, Leicestershire Association, Bourne, Spalding.

[5] Originally entered to Northiam.

[6] Underlined.

[7] Inserted.

[8] After this Brother Evans reproduced the rest of last year's minutes, with a few trivial variations; but apparently hearing that Fenn was dead, cancelled it.

Wales—especially as we feel interested in their welfare & rejoice in their prosperity.

5. [Page 341.] [Students.] The Treasurer of the General Baptist *[6]Education Society[6] reports that [6]Mr. William Rees Jones[6] finished his studies at Midsummer last[7]—and [6]Mr. John Williams Morris[6] at Christmas last—and they feel grateful for the advantages which they have enjoyed. Mr. Jones is chosen Pastor of the Church of Trowbridge lately under the care of our worthy Brother Mr. Daniel Jones.[9] And Mr. Morris is settled at Lewes where his labours are acceptable.[10] In their room we have upon the Society [6]Mr. John Philpot[6] of Canterbury & [6]Mr. William Dobell[6] of Cranbrook.—We have to renew our thanks for the support which the [6]Education Society[6] has already received & to state our hope that greater efforts than ever will be made for its promotion in the General Baptist Connection[11] Ministers are much wanted for several of our Churches are vacant—but want much to be supplied. Every other Denomination of Protestant Dissenters is[12] sensible of the utility of learning to the proper discharge of the duties of the Christian Ministry & their attention is of course directed to this matter with an increasing degree of zeal & activity. Let us take a lesson from our Brethren on this important subject. Maintaining the great doctrine of [6]General Redemption[6] it is but justice that the Preachers of it should have every advantage which may enable them to propagate it successfully throughout the World.—A List of [6]Annual Subscriptions[6] to the Institution & of Collections by our Churches will be found at the close of these Proceedings —& [6]the increase[6] of the List[6] must gratify every well wisher to the Gene—*ral Baptist Interest. [Pege 342.] [Collectors.] The Assembly appoints the following Gentlemen to receive procure & transmit subscriptions to the Treasurer Mr. Jno. Treacher No. 43 Paternosterow or to [13]the Secretary the Revd. J Evans Pullin's Row Islington—Mr. Vidler Westham—Mr. S. Kingsford Can-

---

[9] Daniel Jones died last year. William Rees Jones only stayed one year, then was succeeded by Gisburne from Soham, and by Wright from Wisbech. The Unitarian historian, Murch, records that after their ministries, ending in 1827, "the number of General Baptists was very small, and the affairs of their church in a bad state." Samuel Martin, however, revived it.

[10] Originally, particularly acceptable.

[11] Originally, Education.

[12] Originally, are.

[13] Originally, Mr.

terbury Mr. B. Marten Dover—Mr. A. Bennet Dichling Mr. B. Dobell Cranbrook Mr. R. Pyall Headcorn Mr. R. Wright Wisbeach Mr. J Dobell & Mr. D Hosmer Smarden & Staplehurst—Mr. H Brown Lewes Mr. John Jeffery Billingshurst —Mr. Sadler Horsham Mr. Philpot Saffron Walden Mr. Mills Portsmouth Mr. T. Cooke Newport Isle of Wight Dr. Toulmin Birmingham & Mr. Job David Swansea. We thank these Gentlemen for their past exertions & intreat the continuance of their zeal & assiduity. The Assembly also recommend to all[6] the Churches to preach an [6]Annual Sermon[6] in favour of the Education Society & transmit their collections raised to the ensuing Assembly. Such contributions however inconsiderable will be thankfully recieved by the Society.

6. [Cranbrook.] The case of Cranbrook Church coming again before the Assembly we have again appointed Messrs. Jno. Evans Sampson Kingsford Robert Pyall Stephen Philpot & Abraham Bennett to make collections for defraying the remaining sums incurred by the erection of a place of Worship among them—upon condition *that the Cranbrook friends furnish [Page 343.] each of the above Brethren with a statement of the expence incurred—what is paid & what remains due.

7. [Hull.] We regret to find the Baptist Church at Hull are not in such favourable circumstances as we could wish & hope by next Assembly to hear a better account of them.

8. [Lord Sidmouth defeated.] A Sermon was preached against [6]Intolerance & Persecution[6] by Brother John Evans from the Parable of [6]the Tares & Wheat[6]—Matt 13. from 24. to 30.—[7]which will be immediately printed—having a reference to the late rejection of Lord Sidmouth's Bill[14] in the House of Lords.[7]

---

[14] Lord Sidmouth had obtained a return, showing that, whereas from 1760 to 1802 there had been 2604 dissenting ministers licensed, yet in the last seven years 1068 more had taken out licenses. He claimed that this was an abuse of the law, so that "cobblers, tailors, pig-drivers, and chimney-sweepers" could avoid election to parish office or service in the militia. He, therefore, proposed to require a certificate from six substantial and reputable householders as to the qualifications. This is practically the recommendation required in Victoria to-day for ministers of any body, who wish to be entitled to perform marriages, and many nonconformists supported the bill then. But all who were interested in progress, rather than respectability, opposed it vehemently, and, of course, General Baptists, with their constant reliance on unpaid, untrained ministers, were among the opponents. Robert Aspland was a prominent member of the committee which secured the abandonment of the proposal. The reaction was thorough, and next year the Five-mile and Conventicle Acts were repealed, while the Toleration Act was extended. In 1813 Unitarians were formally admitted to equal privileges with other dis-

9. It was again moved & carried I. That our Brethren R Wright & S. Philpot be commissioned from the Assembly to visit any Churches in the General Baptist Connection North of the Metropolis that may request their assistance—the expences to be paid from the Messenger's Fund and 2. That the Churches in Lincolnshire & the neighborhood be consulted about the utility of ordaining Messengers for their service & on the best means of reviving the General Baptist Association of Lincolnshire.

10. [Soham and Ipswich received.] The Church of Soham in Cambridgeshire under the care of Brother Gisborne & the Church at Ipswich under the care of Brother[13] Jackson are unanimously received by & [15]united with the Assembly.[16]

11. [Ministers needed,] We are glad to say that the Societies at Lewes & Sutton are supplied with Ministers but the Churches at Coningsby & at Chatham are still destitute—& we earnestly[6] request that our Brethren will give them early information of any Minister who may suit them.

[Page 344.] 12. [Coningsby building.] *The Church at Coningsby being on account of the happy re-union & increase of their hearers under the necessity of building a New Meeting House are encouraged to expect such assistance as our Churches at the time may be able to afford them.

13. [Northiam debt.] The Church at Northiam being unavoidably involved in debt by the Building of their New Meeting House the Assembly highly commending their zeal & christian spirit recommend their Case to the Patronage of the Churches.

---

senters, and the new charter of the East India Company compelled it to permit missionary operations. The agitation continued till, in 1828, the Tests and Corporation Acts were also repealed.

[15] This originally stood before, by.

[16] The church at Soham had been founded by a secession from the Isleham Congregational church about 1750, and had been tended by Andrew Fuller. John Gisburne came in 1803, and soon changed the views. Apparently the church split into three, the Particulars retaining the old premises, Gisburne and his adherents building on Hall Street, but claiming to be the church; while the Generals resident at Isleham built and organised, joining the New Connection in 1832. The church at Ipswich was due to W. Jackson, from Deal, inspired by the Methodists, supported by the Derby Militia in camp here, with several New Connection members, and sanctioned by the Norwich minister, who formed a church in 1809. The Kentish churches found him money to rent a house and furnish it. Next year Dan Taylor opened it and ordained him.

[13]Our brother Blundell[6] means to go round to our Churches & we doubt not of their liberality.

14. [Expenses of ending Sidmouth's Bill.] Upon a motion being made [7]by Mr. Samuel Brent[7]—it was agreed to recommend to the Churches to publickly acknowledge[17] the recent goodness of God in putting an end to the late Bill of Lord Sidmouth which so much militated against our religious Liberties & that they make a collection for repaying the expences which the Committee of the Deputies for the defence of the civil rights of Dissenters have incurred in opposing it. The sums should be communicated immediately to John Gutteridge Esqr. Denmark Hill.

15. The next Assembly to meet at Worship Street Tuesday in the Whitsun Week 1812—when Brother Coupland do preach & in case of failure Brother Joseph Dobell of Cranbrook

[Page 345.] 16. *The business of the next Assembly to commence at Seven O Clock in the Morning—Public Service at Eleven & dine at Four. It having been observed that both [6]Ministers & Representatives[6] have not met at the [6]appointed time[6] by which the business of the Assembly has been retarded to the great inconvenience of our Friends we particularly request that the persons concerned will make good their places at seven O Clock & proceed at eight to Breakfast.

Stephen Philpot Chairman

Richd. Wright } Moderators
Abrm. Bennett }

[END OF MINUTES IN BOOK No. II.]

---

[17] Originally, acknowledgement.

THE GENERAL BAPTIST FUND.

Occasional allusions have been made to this, but it may be well to summarise its story. In 1717 a public fund was raised to promote the interest of the baptized churches, especially by maintaining honourable ministers and providing for a supply of such. It was proposed to limit its advantages to the Particular Baptists only, and though Benjamin Stinton forcibly opposed such limitation, it was decided upon. Two years later, the church at Paul's Alley was refused as a contributor, despite the advocacy of the Hollis family, while John Hollis was the treasurer. It was in this year that the Salters' Hall controversy provoked such violent feelings among the Baptists as amongst all other dissenters.

In 1726 therefore, the Paul's Alley ministers with many others, drew up a scheme for a Fund not so limited, and the plan is recorded by Crosby at IV. 205. It provided for a three year course of study, which might be extended to four or five, and for bursaries not exceeding £20 a year for not more than two years after finishing the prescribed course of study. Within the next three years a joint fraternal, which had met at the Hannover Coffee House, and then had transferred to the British Coffee House, lost practically all its Particular Baptist members, who drew off to a younger fraternal meeting first at the Gloucester, then at Blackwell's. In like manner the Fund of 1726 soon became practically a General Baptist Fund, and became so known. Its declared object was "for assisting ministers in the country by grants in aid of stipend and grants for books." The Fund was administered with care by Managers chosen by the contributing churches, nearly all of which belonged to the Assembly, as is shown by a letter printed at the close of the 1737 minutes. The Assembly took formal notice of it in 1738 and 1747, while from 1788 its accounts were printed and circulated with the Assembly proceedings.

But while the Calvinists were content with the Particular Baptist Fund, the Managers of this General Baptist Fund never drew any line between applicants from Assembly churches and from the New Connexion: the chief qualification was their need. By 1825 the invested funds had grown to £4,000, while £45 was received in subscriptions; 37 ministers received money grants, of whom nearly half belonged to Assembly churches, while 18 received books, the New Connexion names of Goadby and Winks being in the list with typical Assembly names such as Marten and Green. To-day the Midland Baptist College and the Assembly share equally with poor ministers and churches of the New Connexion.

The General Baptist Education Society which was so warmly commended in the last few years here recorded, gradually accumulated about £500 capital, and about 1825 was receiving from £80 to £100 annual subscriptions.

These two instances may show that the old ideals of corporate effort were still before the minds of the Assembly churches, and even if their resources were diminished or stationary, they were still earnest to maintain their ministry and extend their influence.

GENERAL BAPTISTS IN AMERICA.

The occasional allusions to the fortunes of the General Baptists in the English colonies till 1776 may be usefully gathered together, and interwoven with notices from Professor Vedder's Short History of the Baptists, the new and enlarged edition of 1907. From his pages 287 to 318 the main thread of the following account is taken.

Except in Pennsylvania, most of the early Baptist colonists were General, and it was not till about 1742 that the Philadelphia Association, adopting the 1677 Baptist revision of the Westminster Confession, ensured the prevalence of a Calvinistic type of theology. Since all but one of the early churches whose history is known had their nucleus in a few men or women who had been Baptists in England, it is somewhat remarkable that the links with the Assembly are not more numerous.

RHODE ISLAND AND VICINITY.

The church at Providence was founded in 1639 by Roger Williams, Holliman baptizing Roger Williams, who then baptized ten others. Williams soon left the church and others joined. In 1652 the church divided, the majority constituting a Six-principle church. In 1771 most of this church adopted Calvinism, whereupon the General members seceded and established a new church, which survives.

The church at Newport was traditionally formed in 1644, and included Mark Lukar, a Calvinist, who had been immersed in January, 1642, at London. By 1648 it was a Baptist church and soon included Obadiah Holmes, a Baptist from Preston, possibly connected with the Londoner who signed the Calvinist Confession of 1646 and the officer at Leith who signed in 1651. But by 1656 the Newport church divided, and a Six-principle church was constituted under the leadership of William Vaughn, on whom hands had been laid, according to the Fourth principle, at Providence. This church protested against psalmody, restraints on laymen preaching, particular redemption, as well as the neglect of the Fourth principle.

The first pastor of the Newport church, John Clarke, M.D., succeeded in obtaining a charter from Charles II. in 1663 which united Rhode Island and Providence Plantations into a colony where civil and religious liberty were assured. A speedy result was the foundation of two more General Baptist churches on the mainland, at North Kingston in 1665, Tiverton in 1685. Just across the border of Plymouth Colony was the town of Swansea, to which Miles of Swansea in Wales had taken his Baptist church on the accession of Charles; and here in 1685 a fifth General Baptist church was formed by secession from it. Over the western border, in the colony of Connecticut, at the mouth of the Thames, a sixth was founded at Groton in 1705. Off the coast lay Long Island, and when this was captured from the Dutch who had repressed all dissent, a Baptist began preaching by 1700 so that a church was organized at

Oyster Bay in 1724. Two attempts were made in New York, but the second expired soon after 1730 by internal dissension—possibly connected with Calvinist doctrine? Most of the churches in New Jersey were originally General Baptist, but they were soon drawn into fellowship with the Calvinists of Pennsylvania.

By 1670 the handful of General Baptist churches had attained a definite standing, and before 1729 they had organized a Yearly Meeting. It is remarkable that this group of Northern churches never entered into relations with the English Assembly. In 1768 the Minutes record that Morgan Edwards from Philadelphia presented his credentials, and his plan for a college in Rhode Island was formally approved. Now Edwards was educated at the Bristol Calvinistic Baptist College, but had been to Boston, in Lincolnshire, ministering to a little flock. No other cause apparently existed in Boston except the old High Street General Baptist church, whose officers signed the Confession of 1651. In 1751 died the Elder, John Goode, who was also Messenger for the district, and for twelve years there was no Elder, only a succession of ministers. This fits exactly with Professor Vedder's statement that Edwards was ordained only in 1757 at Cork. He returned to England and preached at Rye, one of the few Kentish towns where there was a Calvinistic Baptist church. On the recommendation of Dr. Gill, the Calvinist of Southwark, he went to the Philadelphia church. There he at once proposed to found a college, and the plan was adopted; a charter was obtained in Rhode Island during 1764, and Edwards was sent back to England to canvass for support. In this he succeeded so well that he took over a large sum of money. In 1770 the premises were erected at Providence, and next year the old General Baptist church was won over by the president to abandon its historic position. Edwards continued his efforts, however, in England, and persuaded Dr. Richards (of Lynn?) to bequeath his library of 1300 volumes, which became the nucleus of the finest collection of Welsh books in America.

VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA

The Minutes show that in 1702 there were brethren of the Baptist persuasion and of the General faith, residing in Carolina; a fact apparently not widely known now in America. They sent to the General Association—not the Assembly, but those who protested against the opinions of Caffin—desiring to be supplied with a ministry or with books. Samuel Keeling of White's Alley obtained £7. 12s. for books and was asked to write to them. Unfortunately the records of the Association have been destroyed after 1709, and the records of the Assembly at Stony Stratford, which is its natural heir, are lost. Only in 1714 do we find the London Assembly sending Robert Norden of Warbleton and Thomas White as Messengers to Virginia; while subscriptions were made throughout the Kentish Association for several years. White died on the voyage, as Benedict tells, but Norden gathered a church at Burley, in Isle-of-Wight county, a district where Puritans had been strongly settled from 1619. In 1724 Norden wrote to the Assembly, and next year a committee was appointed to settle whether he should be invited to return, and to raise necessary funds. However he died at his post in 1725. The next pastor was another colonist from England, not sent expressly from the Assembly, and he founded a second General Baptist church in the adjoining county of Surry. About 1756, they appealed to the Philadelphia Association and probably became Calvinist.

From these churches, Benedict tells us, colonists went down to North Carolina, where by 1727 a church was organized in Perquimans County on Albemarle Sound, and in 1742 another in Halifax County, up the Roanoke. In 1729 there was so much promise here that a North Carolina Association was formed, which by 1752 had sixteen churches. Soon afterwards the Philadelphia Association came into touch with it and altered its character, so that by 1765 it was reorganized as the Kehukee Association. In 1772 the churches resulting from the labours of Whitfield were so numerous that the Kehukee Association proposed a conference, and the result was the union on a Calvinistic basis.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The third centre of the General Baptists was in South Carolina. A Calvinistic church had come down from Massachusetts, driven from Kittery by the intolerance of the Congregationalists, and had been reinforced from the West of England. In 1699 they erected a meeting house in Church Street in Charlestown, the site being given by William Elliott. His son became a General Baptist leader, according to the tradition given to our friend Morgan Edwards, and quoted from him by Benedict; by 1733 a General Baptist church drew off from the original, and was strong enough to found a second church at "Stone," which seems an error of reading for Stono, ten miles west of Charleston, on the Stono River. In 1737 they made an appeal to the Assembly, with the result that in 1739 Haywood was sent out as Messenger. There were property troubles, resulting in the Charlestown meeting house being awarded to the General Baptists. In 1756 this church applied again to the Assembly, guaranteeing £70 yearly; next year they raised the guarantee to £100, sending £50 as an earnest of good faith. Grantham Killingworth of Norwich interested himself, and by 1758 Daniel Wheeler was sent out. Letters continued for five years, the later ones being from Stono. In 1772 a further application was made, and next year Philip Dobell was sent out to Charlestown. Here the veil drops, and when the colonists had vindicated their independence, we find that the Calvinists had come into peaceable possession of the whole property, so that presumably the General Baptists were negligible here by 1787.

MARYLAND.

A fourth centre afterwards came into touch with the Assembly by the despatch of James Fenn in 1794. By 1798 letters came as to two buildings, at Fell's Point in Baltimore, and at Deer Creek. But these were really daughters of the New Connexion, being composed of emigrants from the Friar Lane church at Leicester, which had ordained John Healey as minister before his departure in 1794. Their letters were sent to the New Connexion, and after 1802 the Assembly could get no replies from them.

It will be observed that the Caffinite controversy did not spread to the colonies. And while the decline of fervour during the eighteenth century affected the English General Baptists, leading most of them to the Unitarian position, that was not the case in America. The great revival there due to Jonathan Edwards and Whitfield created hundreds of new Calvinistic Baptist churches, but on the Arminian side there arose only Methodist churches from which no Baptists seem to have arisen as in England, unless the Free-Will Baptists are to be accounted thus. Therefore the old General Baptists were left in backwaters, and to-day are not serious factors in the religious life of the country. The old original group, dating in Rhode Island from 1639, has only 18 churches and not 1,000 members in New England and Pennsylvania. Its offshoots in England are about of the same importance; and have been alluded to at I. lvi. The North Carolina group was not all won over to Calvinism, and may still be found under the title, Original Free-Will Baptists. Professor Vedder quotes them as having in 1890, in both Carolinas, 167 churches, with 11,864 members. They appear to uphold largely the doctrines and practices of 1660.

INDEX TO PERSONS.

The references are by dates only, except where the information is in the introductions to the two volumes, for years before 1689. They are given chronologically, and the century number is not repeated. Annual appointments are marked, such as Chairman, Moderator, Scribe, Writer, Preacher. Rank is marked, as Elder, Messenger; and this remains permanent. (The few entries not relating to General Baptists are bracketed.)

Adams, Richard. I. xlii., 1692 note.
Addis, Walter, Elder of Portsmouth. 1709, 10, 12, 14, 21.
Adis, Henry, of London. I. xxxv.
Agard or Ager, Henry, of Horsleydown. 1697. Compare Haggar.
Agate, Barbary, of White's Alley. 1695.
Agate, John, of Horsham. 1751, 73, 76, 77, 78, 81, 83, 86, 88.
Agate, Thomas, of Ditchling. 1771.
Agate, William, of Sevenoaks. 1763. Webstone 60, 69.
Agate, William, of Horsham. 1785, 89.
Agnes, Robert, of Colchester. 1734.
Agnes, Thomas, of Colchester. 1697, 1702, 04.
Ainsworth, William, of West Langton. I. xxxv., xliii.
Alcock, William, Elder of Deptford. 1698 Association.
Allen, Daniel. 1696, 98.
Allen, Gregory, of Blankney. I. xxxv.
Allen, John, of Westby and Easton. I. xxxv., xlii.
Allen, Nathanael. I. xxxv.
(Allen, Richard, of White's Alley. I. xix., II. 49.)
Allen, Will., of London. I. xxxv.
Allen, William, of Combe. 1733, 34.
Alley, William, of Waddesdon. I. xlii.
Amory, Hugh, of Dunning's Alley. 1714.
Amory, John, of Wrington. 1679. II. xiv., 91, 92 Messenger, 93, 96, 97, 98, 1700, 02, 04, 09 Chair.
Anderton, John, of Brattleby. I. xlii.
Anderton, Joseph, Elder in Lincolnshire. 1711.
Angell, John, of Chichester. 1747, 54, 58 scribe, 59 scribe.
Angleshaw, Robert, of Welby. I. xxxv.
Ansell, John, of Ditchling. 1733.
Ansell, Thomas, of Ditchling. 1710.
Anthen, Matthew, Elder of Chichester. 1721.
Archer, Nicholas, of Lincoln. I. xlii.
Arden, Thomas, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Arnold, Henry, of Tunbridge Wells. 1750, 59, 61.
Arthur, —, of Folkestone. I. xliii.
Ashdowne, William, of Tunbridge Wells or Speldhurst and Pembury. 1715, 24, 31, 34, 37, 39, 43 Elder, 44, 45, 46.
Ashdowne, William, of Tunbridge Wells. 1754.
Ashdowne, William, Elder of Dover. 1770 Chair, 71, 73, 74 Chair, 75, 83, 87 Chair.
Ashwell, John, of Boston. I. xliii.
Ashworth, John, of White's Alley, 1739 note, 72 note.
Askew, John, of Barnet. 1692.
Aspland, Robert. 1802, Elder of Newport, 03 note, to Hackney Presbyterian, 05 preacher, 11 note.
Astey, Thomas. I. xxxv.
Atkins, Stephen, of Worplesdown. 1721, 24.
Aumigeu, John. I. xxxv.
Austen, Abraham, of Sutton Coldfield. 1789, 90.
Austen, Ambrose, of Ditchling. 1759.
Austen, Benjamin, student, 1797.
Austen, Daniel, of Ditchling, 1750, 03, 05, 07. 1762 Elder of Portsmouth, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 70, 71 for Headcorn? Messenger.
Austen, James, of Chichester. 1752.
Austen, John, Elder of Smarden, 1741, 42, 46, 51.
Austen, John, of Portsmouth. 1761.
Austen, John, of Headcorn. 1778, 81. 1788 Elder of Bessel's Green, 90, 91, 93.
Austen, William, of Bessel's Green, 1793.
Axtell, Thomas, of Goswell Street. 1697 Association.
Ayers, John, of Mill Yard. 1758.
Aylood, John, of Chatham. 1795.

Aylward, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1762, 65. Compare Elliott.
Ayres, Francis, of Wycombe. 1751.

Babb, John. I. xliii.
Baker, Benjamin, of Parliament Court. 1805, 08, 09, 10, 11.
Baker, John, of Sundon. I. xliii.
Baker, John, Elder of Aylesbury. At General Association 1697, 98, 99, 1700, 01, 03, 04.
Baker, John, Student from Dover 1803-5. 1807 Chatham.
Baker, William, of Parliament Court. 1807.
Baldock, George, of Chatham. 1757.
Baldwin, Henry, of Berkhamsted. I. xliii., 44.
Bampton, Richard. I. xliii.
Bampton, Thomas, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvi.
Barber, Edward, of London. I. xiv, xxxvi., l.
Barber, Richard, of Croydon. 1732, 34.
Barbor, Thomas. Association 1702 Aylesbury. 1704 High Hall.
Barkwith, John, of Goswell Street. 1749, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62.
Barling, John, of the Western Association. 1725.
Barnes, William, of Swyneshead. 1651.
Barnet, John. Had signed by 1696.
Barnham, Richard, of Norwich. 1797.
Barrett, John, of Brentford. 1757 to 1810 annually except 1773, 1788, 1801, 02, 08, 09.
Barrett, Joseph, of Brentford. 1802.
Barrett, Robert, of Webstone. 1731, 38, 39 Elder, 44 to 59 annually.
Barron, Richard, of Deptford. Notes to 1738, 1739, 1800.
Barron, Thomas, of Melbourn. 1765, 68, 84 Elder, 85, 86, 87, 89, 99.
Barron, William, Elder of Norwich. 1719, 25.
Barrow, Richard, of Guston. I. xliii.
Barton, John, of White's Alley. 1738, 39.
Barton, William, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvi.
Bass, Charles, of Parliament Court. 1804, 06 Elder.
Bass, Daniel, of Headcorn. 1736.
Bastable, Peter. I. xxxvi.
Bastings, Thomas, of Berkhamsted. 1692. Association 1697, 98, 99, 1700, 01, 02, 03, 04.
Batchelor, of Spalding. 1796.
Bate, William, of Dinton. I. xliii.
Bateman, Miss. 1795.
Bateman, William, of Goswell Street. 1768, 69.
Batty, John. I. xxxvi.
Bayly, Richard, Elder in Dorset. Association 1703, 04.
Beacar, William. I. xxxvi.
Beacham, Daniel, Eythorne 1709. Elder of Goodman's Fields 1710.
Beal, William, of Ditchling. 1804.
Beamont, Elder of Deptford in 1729. See note in 1800.
Beard, Edmond, of Horton. I. xliii.
Beauchamp, John, of Croydon. 1744.
Beaver, John, of Thurlby. 1651.
Beck, Dan, Elder of Amersham. Scribe at Assembly from 1732 till 1761; except 1743, 47, 52, 57 absent, 58 not scribe.
Bell, Christopher, of Peterborough. I. xliii.
Bell, Thomas, of Goswell Street. 1766, 67, 69 to 78, 90.
Bell, William, of Goswell Street. 1733 to 40, 42, 58 to 61, 64, 65.
Bending, John, Elder of Yarmouth. 1734.
Benge, Joseph. 1697.
Benge, Samuel, of Sevenoaks. 1744, 45, 46, 47, 48 mod., 49 Elder, 51, 52, 54, 55, 62, 66, 68, 69.
Benge, Samuel, junior, Sevenoaks 1763. Park 1766, 67.
Benge, Thomas, Elder of Speldhurst or Tunbridge Wells. 1698, 1702, 04, 09, 10 mod., 11, 21 mod., 24, 25 mod., 28, 37 letter.
Benge, Thomas, of Canterbury. 1739 note.
Benge, Thomas, Tunbridge Wells 1753. Hillsley 54, 55.
Benge, William, of Sevenoaks. 1692.
Bennet, Abraham, Parliament Court 1801, 03 Elder. 1804 Elder of Ditchling, 05 mod., 06, 07 preach, 08, 09, 10, 11 mod.
Bennet, Thomas, of Westfield and Rolvenden. I. xliii.
Bennet, Thomas, Elder of Deptford. 1802.
Bennom, Richard, of Long Crendon. I. xliii.
Berry, John, Elder of Goodman's Fields. 1692, writes to Amsterdam 96, 98.
Betts, Peter. I. xxxvi.
Bevrey, John. Had signed by 1696. Compare Berry.
Bexby, Joseph. 1702.
Biggs, Henry. Berkhamsted 1752. St. Ives 53, 55, 57, 58, 59 Elder, 61 not Elder expressly, 65, 66, 67, 71.
Billinghurst, Thomas. Ditchling 1781. Horsham 87, 88, 90, 91, 94.

Birkhead, Gowin. High Hall 1699, 1702. Hart Street 03, 04.
Birley, Henry, of St. Ives. 1790.
Bishell, John. 1803.
Black, Elder in Isle of Ely. Association 1700.
Black, W. H., Joint Secretary in 1848. Annotator Bradburn book 1656. First Assembly Book.
Blackburn, William, of Elme and Ely. I. xliii.
Blackmore, James, of Marden and Tenterden. I. xxxvi., xliii.
Blake, James, of Deptford. 1802, 06.
Blake, Robert, of Hull. 1808.
Blen.man, Jo., of Norwich. 1710.
Bliss, William, of Weston. II. xvi.
Blundel, Edmund. 1654.
Blundel, Stephen, of Battle. 1808, 11.
Blythe, Joseph, of Arnesby. I. xliii.
Bolton. 1781 preach, 90.
Bond, William, Elder of Rushall. 1748, 49, 51.
Boorman, James, of Headcorn. 1793.
Boorman, John, Elder of Headcorn. 1768 to 71, 72 Messenger, 74, 75, 76 mod., 77 chair, 78 mod., 79 mod., 80 mod., 81 mod., 82 mod., 83, 84 mod., 85 mod., 86 mod., 87, 88, 89, 90 mod., 91 mod., 92. 93 mod., 95, 96 mod., 97 mod., 98, 99 mod.
Boorman, William, of Headcorn. 1770.
Boosh, Richard, of Ratby. I. xliii
Borer, George, of Tunbridge Wells. 1712.
Borket, John, of Berkhamsted. Association 1704.
Botley, Robert, of Horley. 1769, 70.
Boulton, Hugh. I. xxxvi.
Bourn, William, Elder of Turners Hill. 1756.
Bovey, Major, of Horsleydown. 1753.
Bovooy, John. 1691. Compare Berry.
Bower, Benjamin, of Ashford and Chatham. I. xliii., 44.
Bowers, William, of St. Mary Cray. 1672.
Bowes, Thomas, of Portsmouth, Messenger. 1692, 93, 96, 97, 98, 1700 advised not to rent a parsonage.
Bowin, Richard. 1660.
Bowles, Morrice, of Deal. 1792.
Bowles, Richard, of Chatham. 1804, 06.
Boyce, Gilbert, Elder of Coningsby. 1751, 52, 54 mod., 55 Messenger and chair, 56, 57, 58 chair, 59 mod., 60 chair, 64 chair, 72, 73 chair, 77 on reunion, 91, 93. See also II. 21.
Boyd, George, of Mill Yard. 1760.
(Boyer, Benjamin, of Warwick, 1700 note.)
Boyer, Elias, of Leicestershire. I. xliii.
Bradshaw, Frist., of Deptford. Association, 1698, 99.
Bramby, Matthias. I. xxxvi.
Brent, David, of Portsmouth. 1754.
Brent, James. Portsmouth, 1786, 96. Horsleydown 1802. Portsmouth 1803, 05, 06, 11.
Brent, John, of Horsleydown. 1770 to 79, 1782-89, 1802-05, 1808-11.
Brent, John, of Portsmouth. 1791, 1802.
Brent, Joseph. Portsmouth 1802, 07. Farnham 1811.
Brent, Moses, of Portsmouth, senior and junior. 1759.
Brent, Samuel, of Horsleydown and Deptford. 1797, 98, 1801-4, 1806-11.
Brent, Thomas, of Portsmouth. 1796.
Brent, William, of Horsleydown. 1747.
Brent, William, of Horsleydown. 1770, 71, 73, 81, 85, 90-98, 1801, 02.
Bresh, John, of Eythorne. See Bush.
Bricher, William. Student from Rolvenden 1807, 08. Battle 1810.
Bridgen or Bridgman, Thomas. 1737. Compare Budgen.
Bringhurst, Robert. Northants before 1689. II. xvi.
Brittain, John, Elder of Stony Stratford, Messenger. 1731, 32, 33 dead.
Brittain, John. Hart Street, 1737. Horsleydown, 1739, 41, 44, 45, 46, 55. Elder of Mill Yard, 1757-69, 1770 secedes, 94 note.
Brittain, Nathanael, of Hart Street. 1733.
Brittain, Thomas, Elder of Leighton Buzzard. 1731, 32 scribe, 34.
Brittain, William, of Horsleydown. 1759.
Britten, William. I. xxxvi.
Brooker, William, of Yarmouth. 1735.
Broomfield, James, of Ditchling. 1735.
Broungar, W., of Smarden. 1779.
Brown, Allen, of Horsham. 1791.
Brown, Daniel. Signed by 1696.
Brown, Daniel, Elder. 1731.
Brown, Daniel, of Hythe and Folkestone. Witnesses ordination at Canterbury 1758. 1770.
Brown, David, Elder of Shrewsbury. 1692.
Brown, David. 1696, 98, 1700, 02.

Brown, David, Elder of Maidstone. 1704.
Browne, Edward, of Bassingham. I. xliii.
Brown, George. 1700.
Browne, Giles. 1660.
Brown, H., of Lewes. 1802.
Brown, Henry. I. xxxvi., 1660.
Browne, Henry, of Ditchling. 1787, 88.
Browne, Henry, of Lewes. 1803, 06.
Brown, James, of Bridgnorth. II. xi.
Brown, James, of Ditchling. 1751, 53, 57.
Brown, James, of Ditchling. 1792, 96, 98, 1802, 03, 08.
Brown, James, of Lewes. 1803, 06.
Brown, John, of Goswell Street. 1697.
Brown, John, of Sevenoaks. 1744.
Brown, John, of Sudbury, 1746, 47, 48, 49.
Brown, John, of Ditchling. 1754, 58, 62, 67, 70.
Brown, John, of Church Lane. 1768.
Brown, John, of Horsham. 1779, 83.
Brown, Joseph, of Bradburn and Sevenoaks. 1692, 98, 1704, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19.
Brown, Joseph, of Horsleydown (Printer and Publisher). 1766, 67 Elder, 1768-97, 1798 resigns as Secretary, 1799, 1801, 02. Died 21 May 1803.
Brown, Nathanael, of Warbleton 1754, 56, 62, 63, 64.
Brown, Peter, of Ditchling. 1752, 65, 74.
Brown, Thomas, of Canterbury. 1769.
Brown, Thomas, of Glass-house Yard (lived Gainsford Street, Southwark: Registrar of Business openings). 1793, 95, 97, 98.
Brown, William, of the Park. 1698, 1702, 04.
Browning, Matthew, of Canterbury. 1733.
Browning, William, of Canterbury. 1711, 14.
Buck, Timothy, of Goswell Street. 1797, 1802-11.
Buckhorn, Robert, of Headcorn. 1791.
Buckman, Thomas, Elder of Ditchling. 1731-5.
Budgen, Thomas, of Croydon. 1731, 33, (37), 42.
Bulkley, Charles, Elder of White's Alley. 1772-96, I. lxxiv., II. 51.
Bull, John, of Twyford. I. xxxvi.
Bull, Ralph, of Turners Hill. 1712.
Burch (a hatter). 1702, 09.
Burdett, William, of Gumley and Mowsley and Theddingworth. II. xi., I. xxxvi., xliii. 1651.
Burges, John. 1700.
Burgess, John. Waldron 1773, 75, 77. Ditchling 84, 85.
Burgess, Richard, of Sevenoaks. 1749, 66, 69, 72, 73, 80, 81 Ditchling?, 93, 94, 95, 96.
Burgess, William, of Bessel's Green. 1787, 89, 96, 1805, 10.
Burket, Peter, of Horsleydown, 1736.
Burname, R. I. xliii.
Burrell, Charles, of Parliament Court. 1805.
(Burroughs, Humphrey and Joseph, of Paul's Alley. 1738 note.)
Burton, William. I. xxxvi.
Bush, John, Elder of Eythorn. 1704, 09, 10, 14, 16.
Bush, John. Eythorn 1721. Elder of Ramsgate 1741, 42, 44, 46, 48, 51, 52.
Bush, John, junior, of Ramsgate. 1754.
Bush, Robert, of Burnham. 1764.
Busher, Mark Leonard, of Amsterdam and Delph. I. xiii., xxxvi. (See Transactions, Volume I., number 2, page 107).
Buss, Michael, of Feversham. 1704.
Buss, William, of Cranbrook. 1788, 90, 94, 96, 99, 1800, 01, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 09, 10, 11.
Bust, a subscriber. 1794.
Butcher, Joseph, of Tilbury. 1692.
Butterfield, Michael. I. xxxvi.
Byford, Roger, of Rainham. Association 1697, 99.

Cable, John, Elder of Burnham. 1733, 34.
Caffin, John, of Ditchling. 1743, 49.
Caffin, Matthew, Elder of Horsham, Messenger. I. xvi., xix., xxii., xxxiii., xxxvi., xliii., II. xii. 1656, 60, 73-80, 91, 92, 93, 96, 97, 98, 99 Association, 1700, 1711.
Caffin, Matthew, junior, of Horsham. 1704, 09, 12 Elder, 14, 15, 16, 19 24.
Caffin, Matthew, Elder of Horsham. 1776, 77.
Caffin, Peter, of Horsham. 1744.
Caffin, Peter, of Horsham. 1799, 1801.
Caffin, Richard, of Horsham. 1754, 60.
Callow, John, of White's Alley. 1737, 38.
Calverley, James, Elder of Bradburn and Sevenoaks. 1704, 12, 14, 19, (25), 31, 34.

Cam, Albert, of Deptford. Association. 1698.
Cammack, Christopher, of Lutton. 1807, 09, 11.
Camppin, John, of Deptford. 1803.
Camppin, Robert, of Deptford. 1801, 02, 07-11.
Carden, James, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvi.
(Carey, William, of North Moulton. II. 173.)
Carne, Thomas, of Sibbertoft. I. xliii.
Carpenter, Francis, of Maidstone. 1704, 14 Elder, 32, 36, 39.
Carpenter, Joseph, of Virginia Street. 1735.
Carpenter, Thomas, of Horsham. 1741, 43.
Carr, John, of Hythe and Folkestone. 1721.
Carter, John. I. xliii.
Carter, John, of Hart Street. 1735.
Carter, Stephen, of Deal. 1784.
Carter, Theophilus, of Deal. 1803.
Cartwright, John, of Braintree. 1759.
Catheral, George, of Ivinghoe. I. xliii.
Catland, John, of Wilbraham and Melbourn. 1714, 15, 19.
Catlin, Robert, of Berkhamsted. I. xliii.
Cator, Samuel, of Downham. I. xliii.
Cave, Israel, Elder of Wisbech. II. xvi.
Chackfield, Jacob, of Dunning's Alley. 1712.
Chadwell, William. I. xxxvi. 1660.
Chamberlain, Peter. I. xv.
Chamberlaine, Thomas, of Goodman's Fields. 1692, 97, 98, 1704.
Champion, F., of Parliament Court. 1804.
Chandler, Robert, of Hart Street. 1692.
Chapel, Samuel, of Hillsley. 1752, 59, 63, 64, 66.
Chapman, Copper, of Canterbury. 1783, 86, 89, 91. 1802-5.
Chapman, David, senior, Elder of Cranbrook. 1728, 31, 32.
Chapman, David, junior, of Tunbridge Wells. 1721, 25, 28, 32, 35, 40-44, 46, 47.
Chapman, John, of Mill Yard. 1758.
Chapman, Philip, of Canterbury. 1758, 59, 60, 63-7, 1783 Elder and chairman.
Chapman, Philip, junior, of Canterbury. 1788, 1806.
Chapman, Thomas, of Warboys. I. xliii.
Chapman, Thomas, of Wingham. 1766, 67.
Chapman, Thomas, of Ramsgate. 1789, 1806.
Chatfield, Robert, of Ditchling. 1721, 24, 40.
Cheese, John, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Cheesman, Daniel, of North Willingham. I. xxxvi., 1651.
Cheesman, John, of Folkestone. I. xliii.
Cherry, Elias, of Mill Yard. 1757, 59.
Cherry, Samuel, of Goswell Street. 1743, 44, 45.
Chillenden, Edmond not Edward, Captain. I. xv., xxxvi.
Chilley, Benjamin, Treasurer of Chatham. 1801, 02, 03, 06.
Chilton, Richard, Elder of Ramsgate. 1734, 45 Messenger and Moderator, 46 chair, 47 and 49 Moderator, 57 ordains Fry.
Christian, William, of Leicester. I. xliii.
Clark, George, Elder in the Western Association. 1710.
Clark, James. Association Cudington 1697, 98, 99. Rainham 1700-4.
Clark, Jo., 1702.
Clark, Jonathan, of Headcorn. 1770, 83, 93.
Clark, Richard, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvi.
Clark, Robert, of Burton, Staffs. 1652, II. xi.
Clarke, Robert, of Drayton, Bucks. 1669, I. xliii.
Clarke, Thomas. 1656.
Clayton, of Birdham. I. xliii.
Clay, Thomas. I. xxxvi.
Clayton, John, of Dockhead. I. xxxvi., li., 1660.
Cleverly, Robert. I. xxxvi.
Clough, Abraham, Messenger. 1654.
Cock, Caleb, of Berkhamsted. 1752, 53, 54, 57, 62, 63, 71-75. Expressly not Elder 71 and 75. See note to 1779.
Cock, Charles, of Lincolnshire.
Cock, Edward, of Boston. 1651.
Cock, Henry, of Chalford St. Giles. I. xliii.
Cock, Joseph, of Brentford. 1731, 35, 36, 37, 39.
Cock, Robert, of Westby. 1651.
Cock, Thomas, of Fenstanton. 1651.
Codlyn, William, of Tattershall. 1651.
Coe, Abraham, of Stretham. I. xliii.
Coggar, Ambrose, of Dunning's Alley. 1711, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19.
Cole, Joseph, of Bradburn, 1709, 10.
Cole, Robert, of Over. I. xliii.

Coles, John, of Gumley. II. xi.
Colgate, Daniel. Horsham 1756. Canterbury 1770.
Colgate, David, of Bessel's Green. 1797, 1802, 03.
Colgate, John, of Sevenoaks. 1758, 64, 67, 69, 70, 74, 75, 77, 78, 81 84, 86, 90, 93.
Colgate, Robert, of Bessel's Green., 1789, 92, 94.
Colgate, Stephen, of Sevenoaks. 1746, 47, 50, 52, 58.
Collier, Henry, of Upminster. 1747.
Collier, Henry, of Church Lane. 1769.
Collyer, Henry, of Wing. Association 1703.
Collyer, Joseph, of Goswell Street. 1770.
Congreve, Conyars, of Leicester. 1651. II. xi.
Congrove, Thomas, of Katharine Wheel Alley. 1725.
Constable, John, of Turner's Hill. 1770.
Cooch, William, of Burnham. 1697, 1700.
Cook, Bedlington, of Swansea. 1807, 08.
Cook, John, Elder of Berkhamsted. Association 1697, 1700-04, 09.
Cook, John, of Newport, Isle of Wight. 1721.
Cook, Thomas, of Newport. 1797, 1800, 02, 03.
Cook, William, of Newport. 1797.
Coolidge, John, Elder of Colchester. 1733, 34, 36, 37.
Cooper, Christopher, of Ashford. Association 1700.
Cooper, Francis, of Hart Street. 1736.
Cooper, George. I. xxxvi.
Cooper, James, of Biddenden. 1710, 11, 12.
Cooper, James, of Cranbrook. 1725, 28, 32, 34.
Cooper, James, of Headcorn. 1756, 57, 58.
Cooper, Joseph. I. xliii.
Cooper, Soloman, of Turner's Hill. 1724.
Copper, Matthias, of Tunbridge Wells. 1721, 24, 31, 33, 38, 44, 45 Messenger and Moderator, 46, 47 chair, 48 Moderator, 49, 50 Moderator, 51, 52, 54.
Cornish, Rev. J., of Devon. 1801.
(Cornwaite, Robert, of Mill Yard Sabbatarian. 1738 note.)
Cornwell, Francis, of Marden. I. xliii., 1692.
Cosens, or Cousens, Robert, of Hart Street and Saffron Walden. Association 1702, 1786 note.
Couch, John. 1691.
Couley or Cole, Joseph, of Bradburn and Sevenoaks. 1709, 10.
Coupland, John, of Headcorn. 1808, 09, 10.
Cousens, see Cosens.
Coventry, George, of Park. 1692, 1702, 1704.
Coventry, Joseph, of Park. 1711.
Coward, James. 1731.
Cowper, James. See Cooper.
Cox, Daniel. I. xliii.
Cox, Isaac, of Park. 1702.
Cox, John, of Yorkshire. 1692, 97, 1700. Association 1702.
Cox, Matthew or Miles, of Horsleydown. 1715, 16, 19.
Cox, Richard, of Cudington. Association 1700, 01, 03, 04.
Cox, Robert, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvi.
Cox, Thomas. 1698.
Cox, William, of Sevenoaks. I. xxxvii.
Cox, William, of Bradburn and Sevenoaks. 1692, 1704, 09, 10, 14, 16.
Craford, Richard, of Boston. 1651.
Crafts, 1691.
Crawforth, Richard, of Lincolnshire. I. xxxvii.
Cresswell, Samuel, Elder of Nottingham. Association 1700.
Cripps, Noah, of Burnham. 1725, 28, 34.
Croft, Thomas. I. xxxvii.
Croneyer, Thomas. 1693.
Cropper, John, of Whittlesea. 1710, 15.
(Crosby, Thomas. I. lxxiv., II. 50.)
Crosse, Nicholas. 1656.
Croucher, Thomas. 1679. II. xiv.
Cumberlidge, Thomas, of Walsall. II. xi.
Curtis, James, Scribe. 1755, 56, 58, 63.
Curtis, Stephen, of Harringworth. 1727. II. xvi.
Cuthbert, Thomas, of Brentford. Association 1700, 01, 03.

Dagnal, Stephen, of Aylesbury. 1654. I. xliv.
Dalaway, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1704.
Dalby, W., of Burley. 1651.
Dancy, John, of Ditchling. 1787-90.
Dancy, John, of Horsham. 1799-1801.
Dancy, Jos., Elder of Ditchling. 1724.

Dancy, Josiah, of Ditchling. 1773, 82, 83, 86, 97.
Danel, Charles, of Parliament Court. 1807.
D'Anvers, Henry, of Leicester and Stafford. I. xv., xxxvii., II. xi. 1649.
Danvers, John, of Morley. 1651.
Darmen, J., of Stafford. II. xi.
Darnal, Anthony, of Bierton. I. xliv.
Darvel, John. I. xliv.
Darvill, Anthony, Elder of Brentford. 1692. Association 1698-1704.
(D'Assigny, Marius. 1709 note).
David, Job, of Taunton. 1792 preacher, 1796 writer. 1800.
Davies, William, of Ditchling. 1794, 99, 1802.
Davis, William, of Trumpington. I. xliv.
Davis, William, of Rainham. Association 1699, 1700, 03, 04.
Davy, Thomas, of Tur Langton, [Leicester], Coventry and [Netherton near] Birmingham. 1732, 35 Messenger.
Dawson, John and William. I. xxxvii.
Day, Abraham, of Tixover. 1651.
Day, Richard. I. xxxvii.
Deacon, John, of Leicester in the New Connexion. 1781 note, 86, 88, 89, 95 note, 1800, 03 preacher, 04, 05, 06.
Dean, of Maidstone. 1704.
Dean, Deodatus, of Church Lane. 1763.
Deane, John, wrote to Amsterdam. 1696 note.
Deane, Thomas, of Goswell Street, Messenger. Association 1697, 1700 note, 01, 02, 03, 04 specially 09.
Dearling, James, of Chichester. 1744, 46, 48-52, 54-57, 59, 62.
Delafield, John, of Cudington. I. xliv. Association 1702, 03.
Delamaine, Edward, of St. Mary Cray. I. xliv.
Dell, Thomas. I. xliv.
Dendy, John, of Horsham. 1777, 82, 84, 85, 89, 92, 98, 1801 Elder, 02, 03.
Dendy, Richard, of Horsham. 1711.
Dendy, Richard, of Horsham. 1755.
Dendy, Stephen, of Goswell Street. 1763-7, 73-8, 81-4.
Dener, George, of Swanbourne. I. xliv.
Dening, Philip, of Goswell Street. 1732-9, 41, 42.
Denman, William, of Ditchling. 1732.
Denne, Henry, of Bell Alley. I. xv., xxxvii.
Denne, John, of St. Ives. I. xliv.
(De Rys, Hans, of Amsterdam. I. xvii.)
Dewbery, John. 1696 note.
Dexter, Matthew, Elder of Norwich. 1797, 99, 1802-7.
Diggott, John, of Sutton St. Edmunds. I. xliv.
Disbrowe, John, of Fenstanton. I. xxxvii.
Dobell, Benjamin, of Cranbrook. 1763, I. lxxvii., 26. 1770, 84 Messenger, 85 chair, 86 mod., 87, 88 mod., 91 chair, 93 chair, 94, 95 mod., 96 preacher, 97, 98 chair, 99 mod., 1800 mod., 01 mod., 02 mod., and writer, 03, 04, 05, 06, 08, 11.
Dobell, Daniel, of Cranbrook. 1736, 54 Elder, 55, 56, 58, 60, 62 Messenger, 63 chair, 64, 65, 66, 67 mod., 68, 69 mod., 70, 71, 72, 74 mod., 75 mod., 76, 80 chair.
Dobell, Daniel, of Cranbrook. 1808.
Dobell, Jacob, of Smarden. 1806.
Dobell, John. 1805, II. 21.
Dobell, Joseph, of Cranbrook. 1789, 1802, 04 mod., 07 mod., 08 chair, and author, 09, 11.
Dobell, Philip, of Ditchling. 1769, 71, 72, 73 to Carolina.
Dobell, William, junior, of Cranbrook. 1808, 11.
Dobson, Alexander, Elder of Park. 1758-66.
Dodd, David, of Turner's Hill. 1732-4, 43, 45-51.
Down, John, of Hart Street. Association 1703, 04.
Drewry, Richard and Thomas, of Golsby. 1651.
Drewry, Robert. I. xxxvii.
Drinkwater, Richard, Elder of Portsmouth. I. xvii., 1693.
Drinkwater, Richard, of Chichester. 1710, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19 Elder, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31 Messenger, 32 mod., 33 mod., 34 mod., 35, 38 chair, 39 mod., 40 chair, 41, 42 chair.
Drinkwater, Woodroff. 1731.
Drowley, George. 1785.
Drowley, James, Canterbury 1784. Berkhamsted 85. Ditchling 93.
Drowley, Richard, of Cranbrook. 1774.
Dunn, Daniel, of Deptford. Association 1698.
Dyer, Robert, of Thurlby. 1651.
Dyon, James. I. xxxvii.

Eachell, James. I. xxxvii.
Eades, John, of Saffron Walden. 1734.

Earner, Thomas. I. xxxvii.
Easam, Richard, of Norwell. I. xliv.
East, William, of Wycombe. 1739.
Eastwicke, Francis, of Hythe. 1691, 92, 94.
Eaton David, of White's Alley. 1804, 10.
Edrepp, Edward, of Amersham. I. xliv.
Edwards, Henry, Elder of Warbleton or Waldron. 1767-78, 82.
Edwards, John, of Warbleton. 1770.
Edwards, Joseph, of Sevenoaks. 1738 (slip made) 42, 43, 49-51, 53-57, 60, 61.
(Edwards, Morgan, of Philadelphia. 1768.)
Edwards, Oswald, of Dublin. 1734.
(Edwards, Peter, of Portsmouth. 1808.)
Edwards, Sister, of Deptford. Association 1698.
Elgar, Edward, of Wilbraham and Melbourn. 1715.
Elliott, Francis, of Colchester. 1704.
Elliott, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1762, 65, 74. Compare Aylward.
Ellis, George, Elder of Ashford. Association 1698.
Ellis, John, of Turner's Hill. 1759, 60.
Ellis, John, of Farnham. 1779, 80, 82-4, 86-9, 91-5, 98, 1801-3, 05, 08-11.
Ely, of Church Lane. 1762.
Emerton, Rendal. I. xxxvii.
Emerton, William, of Awbry and Drayton. I. xliv.
English, Griffel, of Turner's Hill. 1724, 41 Elder, 44.
Essex, Ebenezer, of Leicestershire. 1754.
Etheridge, Joseph. I. xliv.
Evan, Morgan. 1781.
Evans, John, of Goswell Street. 1712.
Evans, John, M.A., LL.D., Elder of the Glass-house church. 1793 preacher, 94 writer, 95-7, 98 Secretary, 99 chair, 1800 writer, 01-03, 04 Messenger, 05-10, 11 preacher.
Evans, Thomas. Park, 1691, 92. Horsleydown 97.
Everard, Robert. I. xxxvii.
Everard, Thomas, of Welby. 1651.
Evershed, John, of Horsham. 1776.
Evershed, Richard, of Horsham. 1770, 74, 75.
Evershed, Richard, of Horsham. 1803, 05.
Evershed, Thomas, of Horsham. 1790.
Evershed, William, Elder of Horsham. 1759, 62 Messenger, 63 mod., 64, 65, 67, 69, 70, 71 mod., 72 chair, 73, 74-7 mod., 78 chair, 79-81 mod., 82 chair, 83, 84-5 mod., 86-9, 90 preach., 91-6, 98.
Evershed, William. Farnham 1787. Horsham 97.
Ewen, Thomas, of Fleet. 1791 note.
Eye, Walter, of Ditchling. 1754.

Fairbrother, John. Messenger. 1656.
Farmer, Richard, of Arnesby. I. xliv.
Farrer, John, of Canterbury. 1803, 05.
Fawn, Roger, of Lincoln. I. xxxvii. xliv.
Fellow, Robert, of Wing. I. xliv., 1692. Association 99.
Fenn, Daniel, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Fenn, James. I. xliv.
Fenn, James, of Deal. 1770 secedes. 1783 returns, 84-86, 87 note, 89 Elder and Chairman, 90 mod., 92, 93, 94 chair, going to America, 97, 1810, 1811 dead.
Fenton, Abraham, of White's Alley. 1802.
Fidiman, of Goswell Street. 1704.
Field, Henry, Elder of Burnham. 1702, 04, 10, 12, 16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28.
Field, Thomas. I. xxxvii.
Fielding, Robert, of Mount Sorrel. 1652. II. xi.
Fildwick, Thomas, of Ditchling. 1758.
Finch, Henry, Elder of Norwich. 1779.
Finist, John, of Dover. 1719.
Firmin, John, of Sudbury. 1738, 48.
Fishborne, Edward. 1693.
Fisher, Samuel, M.A., of Ashford. Messenger. 1654. I. xliv.
Fletcher, Benjamin, of Sevenoaks. 1753, 55.
Fletcher, Robert. I. xxxvii.
Fletcher, William. Had signed by 1696.
Flowerdew, Alice, of Glass-house Yard. 1803-1811, II. 21.
Foot, William, of Bristol. 1788.
Foot, Miss, of Bristol. 1795.
(Foster, James, of Paul's Alley. II. 49, 145.)
Fowle, Thomas, Elder of Rainham. 1697, 98.
Fowler, William. Tunbridge Wells. 1761. Canterbury 1783, 84, 86, 87.
(Fownes, George, of Pinners' Hall. II. 145.)
Fox, James. Had signed by 1696.

Fox, Stephen, of Cranbrook. 1784, 85, 86, 88, 95.
Foxwell, John, Messenger. 1654. I. xxxvii.
Foxwell, Nathanael. Canterbury and Norwich 1691. 1693. [Hart Street]. 1702. Horsleydown 1709, 10, 12 chair, 14 mod., 15 mod., 16, 19 mod.
Francis, J., of Brighton. 1811.
Frank, W., of Wimeswould. 1651.
Freeman, John, of Burley. 1651.
(Freeman, Stephen, of Ponder's End. 1792, 94, 95 preacher.)
(Freeman, T., 1794.)
French, Robert, of Coggeshall. 1767-9. 1770 secede. 1787, 89, 91-3.
French, Thomas. I. xliv.
Fritton, Alexander, of Canterbury. I. xliv.
Fry, Samuel. Western Association 1728, 37. Horsleydown 1738-65. 43 Moderator. 58 Messenger.
Fry, Samuel, junior, of Horsleydown. 1754, 57.
Fulcher, Samuel, of London. I. xxxvii.
Fulford, Christopher, Elder of Deal. 1712.
Fulford, George, of Downton. 1709.
Fuller, John, of Dover. 1802, 04, 07.

Gaffield, Nicholas. I. xliv.
Gale, John, D.D., of Paul's Alley. 1735 note.
Gale, Nathanael, of Goodman's Fields. 1692, 97, 98, 1700, 02, 04.
Gardiner, Benjamin, of Horsleydown. 1716.
Gardiner, William, of Goswell Street 1711, 14-16, 19.
Gardner, George, of Park. 1759-69.
Gardner, John, of Marden. 1732.
Garnett, Joseph, of Luton and Kempton. Association 1700.
Garnett, Peter, of Deptford. Association 1697.
Garrett, George, of Marden. 1714.
Garrett, James, of Lincoln. 1703
Garrett, John, of Berkhamsted and Edlesborough, senior and junior. I. xliv.
Garrett, Simon, of Horsleydown. 1748, 50.
Garrett, Thomas, Elder in Northants at Association. 1703, 04.
Gates, Thomas, of Ellington. I. xliv.
Geadsby, William, of Canterbury. 1769.
Geere, John, of Webstone. 1732, 33, 35, 38, 40 Elder, 42-4, 46, 47, 49 Messenger and Chairman, 51 mod., 52-4, 55 mod., 56 chair, 59 62, 63 mod., 64 mod., 65, 68 chair, 70, 71 mod., 72 mod., 73 mod.
Geere, John, junior, of Hythe. 1767, 70, 81.
Gibbs, Henry, of Western Association. 1711.
Gilby, John, of Long Buckby. II. xvi.
Gilchrist, David, Elder of White's Alley 1814. I. lxxiv.
Giles, Thomas, of Canterbury. 1755.
Giles, William, of Winslow. I. xliv., 1692, Elder at Association 1702.
Gill, John, of Burnham. 1724, 25, 28.
Gillam, William, Elder of Brighton. 1806.
Gimson, Daniel, of Amersham. I. xliv.
Gisburne, John, of Soham. 1810, 11 note.
Glace, see Stace.
Gladman, John, of Park. 1736-40, 42-65.
Gladman, Jo., of Park. 1736-8.
Glenester. I. xliv.
Gleneston. 1691.
Glover, Jonathan, of Leicestershire. 1750, 54, 58.
Glover, Richard, of Sevenoaks. 1725, 32, 35, 38 (slip), 41, 42.
Glover, Thomas, of Wye. I. xliv.
Goddarch, John, of Worplesdon. 1715.
Goldring, Michael, of Brentford. Association 1704.
Goodchild, John, of Ford. 1731, 32, 36-40.
Goodchild, Richard. I. xliv.
Goodchild, William. I. xliv.
Goodchild, William, of Ford. 1735.
Goode, John, of Boston, Messenger. 1750, 51 mod.
Goodhugh, William, of Sevenoaks. 1756.
Goodman, William. I. xxxvii.
Goodson, Robert, of Winslow. I. xlv., 1692, Association 1697, 98, 1700, 01.
Goring, John, of Wilbraham and Melbourn, 1715.
Gosling, John, Elder of Warbleton. 1733, 38, 40, 53, 54, 56-64.
(Gosnold, John, M.A., of Paul's Alley. I. xvi., xxxvii., xlv.)
Goss, Henry, of Cudington. I. xlv., Association 1702-03.
Goss, Henry, junior. I. xlv.
Gould, James, Elder in Western Association. 1719.
Gould, John, of Western Association. 1734.
Gould, Ralph, of Western Association 1711, 21.

Gowland, Stephen, of Canterbury. 1797-99.
Grace, John. I. xxxviii.
Grant, Benjamin, of Horsleydown. 1732, 33.
Grantham, Benjamin, Elder of Whittlesey. 1709-12, 14.
Grantham, Robert. I. xxxviii.
Grantham, Thomas, of Alford, Ralston and Norwich, Author, Messenger. I. xvi., xviii., xxx., xxxviii., xlv., 1689 and note.
Green, Edward, of Mill Yard. 1760.
Green, Henry, of Leicester. 1692.
Green, John, of Boston. I. xxxviii.
Green, John, of Hythe. 1709, 11.
Green, Jos., of Hythe. 1704.
Green, Richard, Elder of Earl Shilton. 1755 note.
Green, Thomas, of Norwich. 1711.
Grice, John, of White's Alley. 1802-11.
Griffith, David, of Dunning's Alley. 1704, 07, 10.
Griffith, John, Elder of Dunning's Alley. I. xvi., xxxviii., xlv., 1654, 56.
Grigg, Henry. I. xxxviii.
Griggs, John, of Ramsgate. 1767.
Griggs, Robert, of Stelling. 1770.
Groom, Richard. I. xxxviii.
Groombridge, James, of Horsleydown. 1745.
Groombridge, Thomas of Maidstone. 1731, 32.
Grove, John, of Wycombe. Association, 1699.
Groves, of Warbleton. 1704.
Grunden, John, of Towcester. II. xvi.
Gurney, William. I. xxxviii.
Gyles, William, of Winslow. 1731-37, 39-42.

Habgood, Charles, of Horsham. 1740, 52, 59, 61.
Hackney, Joseph, of Horsleydown. 1756, 60.
Haddock, Foreman, of Horsleydown. 1749, 51.
Hadock, Leonard. 1656.
Haggar, Henry. I. xxxviii. Compare Agar.
Haile, Thomas, of Northants. 1733.
Haines, Joseph, of Tunbridge Wells. 1767, 69, 70, 73, 75.
Haines, Richard, of Horsham. 1656-80. II. xii.
Hale, John, of Nutfield. 1810, 11.
Halford, John, Elder of Bourn and Coningsby. 1753.
Hall, James, of Winslow. 1744, 45 Elder, 51, 55.
Hall, John, of Soulbury. I. xlv.
Hall, Thomas, of Horton. I. xlv.
Hallett, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1769.
Halsey, Joseph, of Sundon. I xlv.
Haly, John, of High Hall. Association 1700-03.
Ham, Isaac, Elder of Dedham. 1692, 96 note, 1704.
Hammersley, John. 1660, I. xxxviii.
Hammersley, Thomas, of "Berryhill," Staffs., 1652. II. xi.
Hammon, Daniel, of Canterbury. 1704, 11.
Hammon, George, of Biddenden, Author. 1654, 56, 60. I. xxxviii., xlv., II. xiv.
Hancock, Edward, of Wilbraham. I. xlv.
Handley, Dan, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Handley, James, of Deptford. Association 1698.
Hands, Samuel, of Park. 1742, 43 Elder.
Hanson, Richard. I. xxxviii.
Harding, John, [deacon of Amersham.] 1779.
Harding, Michael, Elder. 1731.
Harding, Richard, Elder of Wycombe. I. xlv. Association 1697.
Harker, William. I. xxxviii.
Harris, George, of Aldersgate. I. l.
Harris, Robert, of Newport, Isle of Wight. 1802, 05.
Harrison, Amos, Elder of Croydon, Author. 1731-4, 37, 40-56, 59-61.
Harrison, Thomas. I xxxviii.
Harrison, Thomas, of Bessel's Green. 1751, 52 Messenger, 53 chair, 54, 55, 56 mod., 58 mod., 59 chair, 60 mod., 61 chair, 62, 63 writer.
Hart, William, of Swineshead. 1651. I. xxxviii.
Hartnoll, John, of Winslow, Messenger. 1654, 56. I. xxxviii., xlv.
Hartshorne, Henry, of Lubenham. I. xlv.
Harvey, Thomas, of Eythorn. 1770 secedes.
Hasley, John, of Dean Street. Association 1698.
Hatton, Richard, of Hythe. I. xlv.
Haw, John, of Wierell. I. xlv.
Hayns, Thomas. I. xxxviii.
Hayter, John, of Portsmouth. 1748.
Haywood, to go to Carolina as Messenger, 1739.
Headach, Thomas, of Bucks. I. xlv.
Healy, pastor of Fell's Point near Baltimore. 1802.
Heathcote, John. I. xxxviii.
Hebb, Robert, of Whitwicke. 1651.

Hedworth, John and Randolph. I. xxxviii.

Heigwin, Farmer, of Chatham. 1751.

Helmes, Thomas. I. xxxviii.

Helwys, Thomas, of Spitalfields. I. xiii., xvii., xxxviii., l.

Hendley, John, I. xiv.

Henry, John, of Church Lane. 1768.

Hessum, John. 1700, 02.

Hiffe, Richard, of Fleckney. I. xlv.

Higgs, William, of Earl Shilton. I. xlv.

Hildrup, John, Elder of Maidenhead. 1734, 42.

Hildrup, Joseph. 1731.

Hildrup, Thomas, of Hart Street. 1734.

Hill, Edward, of Shugborough. II. xi.

Hill, William. I. xxxviii.

Hill, William, of Mill Yard. 1755-7.

Hill, William, of Portsmouth. 1796.

Hinton, Thomas. I. xxxviii.

Hitchcock, Henry, of Ingoldsby. I. xlv.

Hitchman, William, of Hillsley. 1763, 67 Elder, 71.

Hobbs, Henry, of Amersham. 1740, 44.

Hobbs, John, [of Berkhamsted?]. I. xlv.

Hobbs, John, of Deal and Dover. I. xlv.

Hobbs, John, of Canterbury. 1714, 15, 33, 34, 36 Messenger. Wycombe 1737, 38.

Hobbs, Joseph, of Berkhamsted. Association 1703, 04.

Hobbs, Joseph, of Chatham. 1794, 95 Elder, 96-99, 1800 "Edward," 1809 note.

Hobbs, Richard, of Dover and Guston. I. xlv., 44.

(Hodges, Sir Nathanael, Kt., of Artillery Lane. 1738 note.)

Hodgkin, Samuel. I. xxxviii.

Holan, John. I. xlv.

Holden, Adam, of Deptford. 1716. 1800 note.

Holderness, Richard, of Park. 1743.

Holland, Richard, of Horsham. 1724.

Hollingbery, Nicholas. 1691, 96 note.

Holman, Benjamin, of Waldron. 1780.

Homerston, William, of Harston. I. xlv.

Hooke, Benjamin. 1696.

Hooke, James, of Hillsley. 1753.

Hook, Jonathan, of Dunning's Alley. 1716.

Hooke, Joseph, Elder of Bourn and Hackenby. I. xxviii., 1696 Messenger-elect. Association 1702, 03, 04, 09.

Hooke, Soloman, of Cambridgeshire. 1715.

Hopgood, Charles, of Sevenoaks. 1715.

Hore, Robert, of White's Alley [tallow-chandler living at Angle Street, St. Martin's-le-Grand]. 1691, 92, 96 note, Association 1697-1702.

Hosmer, Daniel, of Smarden. 1806.

Hosmer, James, of Hythe. 1770-75.

Howard, John. I. xxxviii.

Howard, Luke, of Dover. I. xlv. Author.

Howard, William. I. xxxviii.

Howes, William, of North Marston. I. xlv.

Hugget, Richard. Warbleton. 1749. Canterbury 54, 55, 57, 58 Elder, 61, 62.

Hughes, John, of Deptford. 1803, 07-11.

Hull, Edward. I. xxxviii.

Hull, Thomas, of Brick Lane. I. xxxviii.

Hume, Matthew, of Halstead. 1769.

Hume, Richard, Elder of Braintree. 1767.

Hunt, Clement, of Cudington, Messenger. I. xlv., Association 1697-1702, 04. Assembly 09.

Hunt, John, of Cudington. Association 1702, 03.

Hunt, Dr., of Norwich. 1788, 97, 99.

Hunter, Matthew, of Ditchling. 1734, 42, 49.

Hunter, Thomas, of Ditchling. 1742, 50, 56.

Hunter, William. I. xxxviii.

Huntley, Francis, of Norwich. 1724.

Hursthouse, John, Elder of Spalding. 1709, 10.

Hursthouse, Matthew, of Spalding, 1709.

Iggelsden, John. Bessel's Green, 1770. Headcorn 1786, 96, 1800, 02, 03. Dover 1810.

Ingram, Benjamin, of Horsleydown. 1712, 31, 32-6 Elder.

Ingram, Robert, of Webstone. 1732-6.

Instance, Reuben, junior. 1736.

Instance, Richard, of Mersea Isle. 1732-6, 37 Elder, 38-43, 45-52.

Iony, John, of Goswell Street. 1758.

Iony, Robert. I. xlv. Compare J : o : ny.

Ireland, William, of Horsleydown. 1776.

(Ives, Jeremiah, of Old Jewry. I. xvi., xxxviii.)

Jackman, George, Elder of Lyndhurst. 1714-16, 19, 21, 24, 34, 36-39, 41.
Jackson, of Wisbech. 1807.
(Jackson, Alverey, of Barnoldswick. II. 21.)
Jackson, W., of Ipswich. 1811.
Jackson, William, of Worplesdon. 1714, 24, 25, 31, 39, 46.
Jaggar, James, of Burnham. 1775.
(James, John, of Bullstake Alley. I. xvi.)
James, John, of Norwich. 1789.
James, Ralph, of North Willingham. 1651. I. xxxviii., xlv.
James, Valentine, of Lincoln. 1651. xxxviii., xlv.
Jarman, John, of Wye. I. xlv.
Jarman, Norton, minister at Ashford. Association 1700.
Jarman, Searles, Elder of Canter-
Jarman, Thomas, of Mersham. I. xlv.
bury. 1716, 21 Messenger, 24.
Jeas, John, of East Haddon. II. xvi.
Jee, John, of Horsleydown. 1763, 65, 69, 74-9, 81-96.
Jeffery, Isaac, of Turner's Hill. 1759.
Jeffery, Isaac, of Horsham. 1797, 98, 1803.
Jeffery, John, Elder of Horsham. 1724.
Jeffery, John, of Horsham. 1805, 08, 09 preacher.
Jeffery, William, of Bradburn and Sevenoaks, Messenger, Author. 1654, 56, 60, 92. I. xxxviii.
(Jeffries, Joseph, senior, of Taunton. II. 145, 146.)
Jeffries, Joseph, D.D., of Pinner's Hall. 1768, 72, 73, 74, 76, 79, 80, 81 Worship Street.
Jeffries, Thomas, of Bridgnorth. 1652. II. xi.
Jeffs, Thomas, of Marston. 1651.
Jemmett, Isaac, of Dunning's Alley. 1715.
Jemmett, Isaac, of Virginia Street. 1732-5, 37-41. Custodian of the book from 1733. Same as last?
Jemmett, Isaac, treasurer of the Messenger's Fund 1771, 74, 76, 77. Lived at 35 Queen Street Southwark.
Jemmett, Robert, Elder of Dunning's Alley. 1702, 04, 07, 10, 11, 12 mod.
Jemmett, William. I. xxxix.
Jenkins, Joseph, Elder of Hart Street [ribbon-weaver, King's Head Court Shoreditch] Association 1703, 04, 07. [High Hall 1709-1716, Park 1717. See 1738 note, where in line five "Joseph" should be read.]
Jenkins, Joseph, Elder of Winslow. 1733, 34, 36.
Jennings, Jonathan, Elder of White's Alley [cheesemonger, Spital by Aldersgate] 1660. I. xxxix., xlv., l., 1691.
Jennings, Ralph. I. xxxix.
Jervis, of Ramsgate. 1734 note.
Johnjohns, John, of Lincoln. 1651.
Johns, Captain Pierce. 1736 note.
Johnson, John, of Hornchurch 1731, 32.
Johnson, John, of Leicester. 1755 note.
Johnson, William. 1731 Elder [of Whittlesey?] 33 Messenger Leicestershire, moderator, 35 Lincolnshire, 36 Leicester, mod., 37 Leicester, 38 Lincoln [44 ordain Goode for Lincoln, 45 move to Coventry] 48 Leicester, chair, 52 Leicester, chair, [53 ordain Boyce] 54, 55.
Jones, Benjamin, of Parliament Court. 1803.
Court. 1803.
Jones, Daniel, of Trowbridge. 1808.
Jones, Edward. 1660.
Jones, Humphrey. 1660. I. xxxix.
Jones, John, of Barwell. I. xlv.
Jones, Nathan, of Earl Shilton. 1651.
Jones, William Rees, of Salem. 1808-11.
J:o:ny, Robert, of Ford. 1731, 33, 34. Compare Iony.
Juden, Stephen, of Ditchling. 1744.
Judge, Thomas, of Ditchling. 1797.
Juge, William, of Leicester. I. xlvi.

Keach, Benjamin, of Winslow and Southwark, Author. I. xix., xlvi. (1689 note, Association 1697).
Keach, Henry, of Soulbury. I. xlvi.
Keach, Joseph, of Soulbury. 1660. I. xxxix., xlvi.
Keeling, Samuel. White's Alley, Association 1700-04, Assembly 1736. Virginia Street or Mill Yard, 1741-56.
Kellett, 1691.
Kelly, George, Elder of Portsmouth. 1709 scribe, 10 mod., 11 mod., 12, 16, 21.
Kelsay, John. I. xxxix.
Kelsey, William. 1777 note, 91 note.
Kendall, William, of Mount Sorrel. 1651. I. xxxix., xlvi.
Kennett, William, of Hythe. 1711, 12.
Kerby, James, of White's Alley. Association 1698, 99 [wheelwright, 3 Logg Court, White Cross Street.]

Kerby, Thomas, of Goswell Street. 1691, 92, 96, 97, 98, 1700, 02, 04, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19.
Kermit, William, of Horsleydown. 1714.
Keston, Thomas, of Leicestershire. 1761.
Ketch, Henry, of Western Association. 1711. Query, Keach?
Ketcher [sic], Bartholomew. 1696 note.
Key, Mark, of White's Alley. I. xix. 1700 note.
Killingworth, Daniel [?], of Norwich. 1719.
Killingworth, Grantham, of Norwich. 1724, 32-36, Horsleydown 37-39, Norwich 50-52, 56-58, 60-63, 65-69, 72.
(Kimber, Isaac, of Nantwich and Paul's Alley. II. 49, 145.)
(Kinch, John, M.D., of Paul's Alley and Artillery Lane. II. 50, 145.)
King, Charles, of Hart Street. 1731, 32, 35.
(King, Daniel, of Coventry. His friends were all Calvinist, so delete at I. xxxix., xlvi..)
King, John, of St. Ives. 1719.
King, John, of Hornchurch. 1736-42.
King, William, of Sevenoaks. 1732, 34, 35, 41.
Kingdon, Edmund, of Crediton. 1742
Kingsford, Daniel, of Canterbury. 1770.
Kingsford, Edward, of Wingham. 1783.
Kingsford, F., of Canterbury. 1807.
Kingsford, Flavius Josephus, of Deal. 1797, 1802, 06, 08, 11.
Kingsford, George, of Ramsgate. 1785, 86, 87 Elder, 91.
Kingsford, George, of Headcorn. 1788.
Kingsford, John, of Wingham. 1739 note.
Kingsford, John. Farnham, 1781. Wingham 83. Berkhamsted 86. Portsmouth 87. Wingham 89. Portsmouth 95, 96 Elder, 98 preacher, 99.
Kingsford, John, of Deal. 1799, 1800, 01, 02 Elder and preacher, 03, 06.
Kingsford, Michael, of Chichester. 1789.
Kingsford, Michael, of Canterbury. 1808.
Kingsford, Sampson, of Canterbury. 1771, 74, 75, 77, 83 Elder and moderator, 84 Messenger and chairman, 85, 86, 87 mod., 88 chair, 89, 90, 92 mod., 93, 94, 95 mod., 96 chair, 97 mod. and writer, 98 mod., 99 writer, 1800 mod., 01 preacher, 02 chair, 03 chair, 04, 05, 07 chair, 08, 09 chair and writer, 10, 11.
Kingsford, William, of Canterbury. 1770, 77, 81, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89 mod., 93, 95, 97, 1800, 01, 02.
Kingsford, William, of Dover. 1802, 07, 10.
Kingsnorth, Thomas, White's Alley, 1737. Horsleydown 1744.
Kingsnorth or Kingsnoth. I. xxxix., xlvi.
Kingston, Daniel, of Lenham. I. xlvi.
Kitchin, John, of Lutterworth. I. xlvi.
Knight, James, of Horsham. 1757.
Knight, John. I. xxxix.
Knight, Robert, of Headcorn. I. xlvi.
Knightly, Joseph, of Horsleydown. 1740, 42, 49, 52, 58, 61, 63, 64, 66.
Knightly, Robert, of St. Ives. 1719.
Knott, James, Elder of Eythorn. 1721.
Knott, John, Elder of Eythorn. 1704.
Knott, John, Elder of Eythorn. 1759, 60, 62, 64, 66, 70 secede.
Knott, Lawrence, of Dover. I. xlvi.
Knowlden, William, of Marden. 1738.

Laccar, Benjamin. 1696 note.
Lacye, John, of Surflet. 1651
Lacy, John, of Godmanchester. I. xlvi. Messenger, 1693. Association 1697, 1700, 01 (Wilbraham) 04.
Ladd, Vincent, of Eythorn. 1764, 70 secede.
Laine, Abel, of Whittlesea. I. xlvi.
Lamb, Thomas, of Bell Alley. II. xvi. I. xv., xxxix., l.
Lander, Clement, Messenger. 1656. Compare Launder.
Lane, John, of Horton. I. xlvi.
Lane, John, of Headcorn. 1794.
Lane, Richard, of Sundon. I. xlvi.
Lane, Stephen, of Headcorn. 1802.
Lanford, Caleb, of Katherine Well Court. 1725. Compare Panton, Sunford.
Langley, James, of Goswell Street. 1751-3.
Langley, Richard, of Cranbrook. 1731, 34.
Latham, Charles, of Twyford. I. xxxix.
Lathwel, Thomas. 1660. I. xxxix.
Launce, William, of Southwark. I. xxxix.
Launder, Thomas, of Limehouse. I. xlvi.
Lay, Richard, of Wimiswould. 1651.
Lea, John, of Spratton. 1733, 35.

Leader, Edward. I. xxxix.
Leader, Henry. 1696 note.
Leader, Thomas. I. xxxix., 1696 note.
Leake, John, of Goswell Street. 1692.
Leekey, William. 1696.
Lempriere, Aaron, of Ditchling. 1761.
Letter, John, of Horsleydown. 1741.
Letts, John, of London. 1707.
Letts, John, of Croydon. 1737.
Lewin, Thomas, of Deptford. Association 1698.
Lewis, Benjamin, of Church Lane. 1763, 70 secedes.
Ley, Matthew, of Tixover. 1651.
Lilly, Thomas, of Burnham. 1719.
Lloyd, Charles, of Ditchling. 1791.
Locking, Nathanael, of Wisbech, Messenger. II. xvi. Died 1725.
Long, John, of Church Lane. 1764.
Longley, Henry, Elder of Ashford. Association 1698, 1700.
Louke, John, of High Hall. Association 1698, 99, 1700, 01, 03, 07. Compare Leake.
Love, Edward, of Stafford. II. xi.
Love, Edward, Elder of Headcorn. 1782, 84 preacher, 85, 87, 1803 moderator.
Love, John, of Cranbrook. 1792.
Love, John, junior, of Headcorn. 1796, 99.
Love, Samuel, of Headcorn. 1790.
Love, Stephen, of Headcorn. 1804.
Loveday, Samuel, of Tower Hill. II. xvi., I. xv., xvi., xxviv., xlvi.
Lover, Samuel, of Horsham. 1660.
Lowdell, Stephen, of Mill Yard and Park. Lived at Queen Street, Southwark. Treasurer of Messenger's Fund. 1748-55, 72, 87, 88 Treasurer of G.B. Fund, 93, 94, I. lxxiv., lxxvii., lxxviii., 1801, 03, resign Treasury, 10 dead.
Lowry, Daniel, of Ditchling. 1752.
Lucas, Daniel and James. I. xlvi.
Lucas, John, of Blankney. I. xxxix.
Lupton, John, of Tattershall, Messenger. 1652, 54, I. xxviii., xxxix.
(Lyons, James, of Hull. 1808 note.)

Machyn, Richard, of Leasingham. 1652.
Maddocks, William. 1693, 97, 98.
Malden, John, of Goodman's Fields. I. xvii., 1691, 92, 96 and note, 97, Association 98, 1700, 02, 04.
Malding, John, of Goodman's Fields. 1732, 33, 34, 37, 38, 40, 42, 44.
Manbee, John. I. xxxix.
Manning, Samuel, of Barnet. 1736, 38.
Mantle, Angel. I. xlvi.
Marham, James, of Lynn. 1698.
Marner, of Goswell Street. 1704.
Marner, William. II. xiv., I. xvii. Park, 1691.
Marsom, John. Elder of Mitcham, 1791, 93, 94 mod and preach, 95. Representative of White's Alley, 1798, 1800, 02, 03, 04 chair, 07, 08, 09, 11.
Marston, William, of Hillsley. 1740, 42, 44.
Marten, B., of Dover. 1811.
Marten, Benjamin, Elder of Headcorn, 1797, 98, 1800, 01 mod and writer. Elder of Dover, 1803, Messenger 1804, 05, 06 chair, 07, 08, 09, 10 chair, 11.
Marten, Joseph, of Ditchling. 1798, 1801.
Martin, Benjamin, of Chichester. 1737, 38.
Martin, Benjamin, of Sevenoaks. 1768.
Martin, Benjamin, of Dover. 1800 preach, 02 Elder.
Martin, John, of White's Alley. I. l.
Martin, Robert. 1696 note.
Martin, Simon, of Fenstanton. 1715, 16, 28.
Martin, William, of St. Ives. I. xxxix.
Martin, William, of Ditchling. 1740, 43.
Martyn, Michael, of Twynsham. I. xlvi.
Mason, Joseph, Elder of Hillsley. 1732, 37.
Masson, of Hillsley. 1761.
Matin, Richard. I. xxxix.
Matthias, Rev. Joshua, of Carmarthen. 1801.
Maulden. See Malden.
Maultbey, Robert. I. xxxix.
Maxworth. See Muksworth.
Mayden, James, of Aylesbury. Association 1700.
Mayle, Edmund, of Fenstanton. 1651, I. xlvi., 1693?
Mead, Thomas, of Soulbury. I. xlvi.
Meadmore, John. 1795, 1801.
Medgwick, Walter. I. xxxix.
Mercer, Robert, Elder of Warbleton. 1721, 24, 31 Messenger, 32 mod., 33, 34 mod., 35 chair, 36 chair, 37 chair, 39 mod.
Mercer, Thomas, of Warbleton. 1714, 31.
Mercer, Thomas. Dover 1743. Ditchling 1744.
Meriam, Richard, of Marden. 1748, 54.
Merlatt, Mrs., of Bristol. 1795.
Merrall, Edward, Elder of Bessel's Green. 1786, 95.
Metcalf, Benjamin, of Melbourn. I. xlvi.

Michel, John. I. xxxix.
Miles, Christopher. I. xxxix.
Milford, of Dover. I. xlvi.
Miller, Benjamin, Elder of Downton. 1702, 04, 09 mod., 10 chair, 11 chair, 12, 14 Messenger and chair, 15 chair, 16, 19 mod., 21 chair, 24 chair, 25 chair, 28 chair, 31, 32 chair, 33, 34, 35 mod., 38, 39 chair, 45.
Miller, Henry, of Warbleton. 1704, 09 mod., 10, 11, 12, 16 Messenger, 19 scribe, 21, 24 mod.
Miller, John, of Minterne. Messenger 1656, II. xiv., 1691, 92, 93, 1700.
Miller, John, of Downton. 1704, 19 chair.
Mills, John, of Portsmouth. 1771, 73 Elder, 76, 78, 85, 1800, 02, 03, 06.
Mills, Thomas, of Spratton and March. 1791 note.
Mockford, Edward, of Cranbrook. 1770, 81.
Mockford, George. 1762.
Monforte, M., of Horsleydown. 1805.
Monk, James, of Deptford. Association 1698, 1699.
Monk, Thomas, of Berkhamsted. Messenger, author. 1654, 56, 60, I. xxxix., xlvi., II. xii., 1699
Montague, John, of North Marston. I. xlvi.
Moon, William. Dover 1800. Deptford 01, 03 Elder, 05, 06 preacher, 07-11.
Moore, George, of Whitwicke. 1651.
Moorhouse, Thomas, of Tunbridge Wells. 1753-56, 66.
Morecock, Captain Edward, of Chatham. Messenger. II. xiv. 1692.
Morley, Benjamin, of Ravensthorpe. Messenger. 1651, 54, 56, 60, II. xvi. Winslow, Association 1698.
Morrel. See Merrall.
Morris, Edward, of Hythe. 1712, 25 Elder, 31.
Morris, Francis. 1691, 92, Association 98.
Morris, Henry, of Horsleydown. 1757.
Morris, John Williams, 1809-11.
Morris, Joseph, of White's Alley. [Tallow-chandler at Mountague Street.] 1691. Treasurer, Association 1697.
Morris, Joseph, Elder of Goswell Street. 1732-54. Moderator in 1743, 46, 49.
Morris, Thomas, of Bitteswell. 1651, II. xi., I. xlvi.
Morris, Thomas, junior, of Hythe. 1709.
Morris, Thomas, of Hythe. 1783.
Morris, William, from Wales. 1806.
Mortimer, Thomas, of Parliament Court. 1805.
Mortimer, William, of Newport. 1797.
Morton, John, of Spitalfields. Author Elder of the original church in England. I. xiii., xviii., xl., l.
Mott, Isaac, Elder of Chichester. 1760.
Mowbe. 1693. Compare Mayle.
Mugg, William, of Kilby. I. xlvi.
Muggeridge, James, of Tunbridge Wells. 1751, 52, 55, 57, 63, 65.
Muggeridge, John, of Horsleydown. 1764, 67-69.
Muggeridge, Robert, of Horsleydown. 1737, 40, 42, 43, 47, 56.
Muksworth, Thomas. I. xl.
Mulliner, Abraham, Elder of White's Alley. [Tailor, with brother Burnham, Saffron Hill]. Association 1703, 04, 07, 09. Assembly 1736-9. II. 51.
Munden, Norton, of Wye. I. xlvi.
Murton. See Morton.

Nailor, Moses, of Wedmore. 1803.
Nash, George, of Chilham. I. xlvi.
Nason, John, of Goswell Street. 1691, 92, 94. [Mary was a milliner in Chapel Street near Houndsditch, member at White's Alley.]
Nayle, of Freestone. I. xlvi.
Neal, John, of Goswell Street, 1740, 43-50, 52-57. Scribe in 54.
Neal, Samuel, of Chatham. 1751, 52 Elder, 53, 55, 56, 58-63, 65-84, 86-93.
Nelson, Abraham, Elder of Hornchurch. 1732-38, 40, 43, 44, 47, 50, 51, 53.
Nettlefold, Abraham, of Horsham. 1741, 51, 55, 61.
Newberry, Richard. 1660. I. xl.
Newland, John, of Deptford. Association, 1699.
Newland, Rebecca, of Deptford. 1797, 99.
Newman, John, of Horley. 1651.
Newman, John, of Dockhead. 1691, 92.
Newton, Richard, of Shrewsbury. 1692.
Nicholls, John. 1731.
Nickson, Zacharies, of Collingham. I. xlvii.
Noah, John. 1731.

Noble, Daniel, Elder of Goswell Street. 1768-82, 83 Messenger and die.
Norden, Robert, Elder of Warbleton. 1704, 09, 11, 12, 14 Messenger to Virginia, 25.
Norfolk, John, of Epworth. I. xl.
Norman, Thomas, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Norman, William. I. xlvii.
Notkins, William, of Wing. Association 1700.

Oatcliff. 1794.
Oates, Samuel, of Bell Alley. I. xv.
Odeham, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1734.
Older, John, of Horsham. 1743, 58.
Oldfield, Thomas, of Canterbury. 1770-72.
Oliver, G. S., of Dover. 1803.
Only, Elder of Canterbury. 1704.
Only, John, of Long Lawford. I. xl., xlvii.
Orchard, Thomas. I. xl.
Ording, Christopher. I. xl.
Overton, Colonel Richard. Author. I. xv., xl.

Packman, George, of Western Association. 1711.
Pagson, Robert. I. xl.
Paine, William, of Lincoln. Messenger. I. xl., 1660, 92, 93.
Palmer, Joshua. I. xl.
Palmer, Nathanael, of Turner's Hill. 1761-86, 87 Elder.
Palmer, Nathanael, junior, of Horley. 1788, 89.
Pannett, Richard, of Ditchling. 1760.
Panton, Caleb, of Katherine Wheel Alley. 1725.
Panton, Robert, of Dunning's Alley. 1711.
Pantry, John, of Boughton. 1712, 14.
Pardoe, William, of Leominster. Messenger, Author. I. xlvii., 1691, 92.
Parker, John, of Waltham. 1651.
Parker, Joshua. I. xl.
Parker, Robert. I. xl.
Parker, William, of Normanton. 1651. I. xl.
Parman, Charles, of Castle Headingham. 1766-69, 1770 secede.
Parrott, Thomas, of London. 1651, 56, 60, I. xl.
Parson, William. 1696 note.
Parsons, John, of Feversham. 1654. 60.
Parsons, John, junior, of Feversham. 1660, 1704.
Parsons, Luke, of Canterbury. 1714.
Partridge, Thomas, of Sundon. 1651, I. xl., xlvii.
Pash. See Pisely.
Paskull, James, of Chichester. 1733
Passole, of Ditchling. 1704.
Pawson, Thomas, of Cranbrook. 1794.
Paxston, Samuel, of Northants. 1733.
Payk, Edward. 1700.
Payne, Isaac, of Upminster. 1743.
Payne, William, of Upminster. 1743, 46.
Payne, Thomas, of Burwash, Elder of Battle and branches. 1809, 10.
Payton, Edward, of Eye. I. xlvii.
Pearce, Sampson, of Ashford. Association. 1700.
Pearce, Sampson, of Dover. 1783. 96 Elder.
Pearce, Sampson, of Dover. 1802.
Pearson, Ralph, of Normanton. I. xlvii.
Peasant, William, of Bosworth. I. xlvii.
Peck, Joseph, of the Western Association. 1736.
Pecke, Robert, of Thurlby. 1651.
Peene, Henry, of Oxney. I. xlvii.
Peesley. See Pisely.
Pen, Walter. I. xl.
Penkarvan, Edward. I. xl.
Penney, Benjamin, of Horsleydown. 1735.
Penney, Joseph. 1731.
Penney, William, of Leicestershire and Lincs. 1731, 34, 51.
Perkins, John, of Winslow. Association. 1700.
Perkins, William, of Easonhall. 1651.
Perry, Thomas, of Turner's Hill. 1712, 31.
Pethurst, Jeremiah, of Cranbrook. 1810.
Pethurst, Robert, of Cranbrook. 1776.
Phelps, William, of Deptford. Association, 1699.
Phillips, Benjamin, of Salem. 1806, 08.
Phillips, Hezekiah, of Horsleydown. 1743, 57, 61, 62, 67, 68.
Philpot, James, of Wingham. 1795.
Philpot, James, of Dover. 1802, 04.
Philpot, John. 1758.
Philpot, John, of Dover. 1802.
Philpot, John, of Canterbury. 1811.
Philpot, Philip. I. xl.
Philpot, Stephen. Canterbury 1758, 60. Elder of Stelling, 64, 72. Elder of Dover, 84, 85, 86, 87 mod., 88, 89 mod., 90. Elder of Saffron Walden, 91-94 mod., 95, 96 mod., 97, 98 mod., 99 mod., 1800, 01 chair, 02, 03 mod., 04, 05 mod., 06 mod., 07, 08-10 mod., 11 chair.

Pickering, Richard, of Goodman's Fields. 1743-46.
Pidgeon, William. I. xl.
Piesley. See Pisely.
Piety, Thomas, Wycombe 1740. Aylesbury 48-50, 53, 54 Messenger.
Piety, Thomas, senior, of Ramsgate. 1762, 64, 66, 69, 70 mod., 71, 72, 79 Hythe, 81 note.
Piety, Thomas, junior, of Goswell Street. 1762.
Piggott, Thomas, of Axholm. Author. I. xl.
Pilgrim, Richard. I. xl.
Pinckhorne, Abraham. Messenger. 1656.
Pine, John. Chatham. 1807. Shrewsbury, 1692 note.
Pine, Thomas, of Maidstone. 1797.
Pisely, John, of Worplesdon or Farnham. 1761, 70 scribe, 76, 90.
Pisely, Joseph, of Worplesdon. 1704, 10, 11, 12, 21.
Pisely, Peter, of Worplesdon. 1766.
Pisely, Thomas, of Worplesdon. 1770, 74, 79, 84, 85, 90.
Pittock, William, of Horsleydown. 1755.
(Plant, Thomas, of Barbican. Author. I. xlvii., II. 49.)
Plaver, Richard, of Turner's Hill. 1715.
Plimpton, Robert, of White's Alley. 1736.
Plimpton, William, of White's Alley. 1739.
Pocock, James, Elder of Brentford. 1753 scribe, 57-60.
Pollard, Robert, of Peterborough. I. xlvii.
Poole, Henry, of Lutton. 1804 note.
Poole, William, of Theddingworth. 1651.
Porter, James, of Dover. 1792, 93 Elder, 1801.
Porter, Robert, of Worplesdon. 1715.
Potter, William, of Stepney. I. l.
Pound, George Culmer, of Dover. 1808-10.
Powel, Robert. Hart Street 1732-34, 36. Horsleydown 48, 50.
Powell, Thomas, of Smarden. 1790.
Prentice, Daniel, of Goswell Street. 1741, 46.
Prescott, Edmund, of Guston. I. xlvii.
Prescott, John, of Speldhurst. 1715.
Prescott, John, of Dover. 1732.
Preston, William, of Church Lane. 1766.
Price, John, of Church Lane. 1767.
Price, Phillip, of Hart Street. 1692.
Price, William, of Portsmouth. 1775.
Prittie, Robert, of Lichfield. II. xl. 1784, 86, 87, 88 note.
Proud, Joseph, of Fleet and Norwich
Procoes, Thomas. 1691 Compare Bowes.
Purver, William. I. xl.
Pyall, Joseph, of Berkhamsted. 1777-84.
Pyall, Joseph, of Hythe. 1797, 98.
Pyall, Robert, of Dover. 1728.
Pyall, Robert, of Headcorn. 1777, 81, 84, 89, 92, 94, 95, 97 Elder, 1799-1803, 04 Messenger, 05-11. Moderator 1808.
Pyall, Samuel, of Headcorn. 1750, 55 Elder.
Pym, William, of Tong. I. xlvii.

Quested, Robert, of Wingham. 1766.
Questile, Thomas, of Hythe. 1721.

R.A. See Ritor.
Raine, Edward, of Park. 1768, 69.
Randall, Henry. 1700.
Randall, Matthew. Horsham 1710, 11. Chichester 1714-16, 19 Elder, 21. Elder of Virginia Street, London, II. 21. Moderator 1724, 32-42, 43 chair, 44 mod., 45, 46 mod., 47, 48 Messenger, 49, 50, 51, 52 mod., 53, 54 mod., 55, 56.
Ranger, Thomas, of Cranbrook. 1771, 83, 93.
Ranger, William, of Cranbrook. 1809.
Ransome, Timothy. I. xlvii.
Raph, William. 1660.
Rawling, John, of Barnet. 1736, 39.
Redgate, Henry, of Waltham. I. xl., xlvii.
Redling. See Keeling.
Reeve, John, of Bradburn. 1654, 60. I. xl.
Reeve, William, of Rempstone. Messenger. I. xxviii., 1692, 93.
Reeves, John, Elder of Norwich. 1712 mod., 14 mod., 15 mod., 16.
Reynolds, John. I. xlvii.
Reynolds, Nicholas. I. xlvii.
Reynolds, Richard. I. xl.
Reynolds, Thomas. I. xli.
Reynolds, William. Messenger 1656, I. xxviii , xli.
Rich, Nicholas, of Biddenden. 1704, 11 Elder, 12, 14.
Richards, William, of Lynn. 1801-04, 06 writer, 09 writer. Appendix.
Richardson, James, of Horsleydown. I. xxix., lxxff., 1700, 04, 07, 08 and 09 in Appendix, 11, 12. Messenger. 14-16, 19 scribe, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31, 32.
Richarson, Robert. I. xli.

Ridal, John. I. xli.
Rider, Daniel, of Ford. 1734, 43, 50.
Rider, William, of Southwark. I. xli., II.
R[itor], A[ndrew]. I. xv.
(Robbins, Richard, Elder of White Street. Association 1697).
Robbinson, Richard. I. xli.
Roberts, John, of Dockhead. 1691, 92.
Roberts, John, of Parliament Court. 1803-05, 08.
Roberts, John, of Lincoln. 1803 note.
Roberts, John, of Lutton. 1809.
Roberts, William, Elder of Spalding. 1709.
Robins, Andrew. 1693.
Robinson, A., 1788.
Robinson, Edward, of Northants. 1733.
Robinson, Luke. I. xli.
Robinson, Richard, of Rainham. Association 1697.
(Robinson, Robert, of Cambridge. 1772 note. 1789 preach.)
Rogers, Thomas, of Leicester. 1651, II. xi.
Roper, Randal, of East Smithfield. I. xlvii., 1696 note.
Row, John, of Parwich. II. xi.
Row, Nathanael, of Cranbrook. I. xlvii.
Roweth, William. I. xli.
Rowland, Nathanael, of Ramsgate. 1767.
Rusling, Thomas, of Spalding. 1791 note.
Russell, John, of Berkhamsted. I. xlvii.
Russell, John, of Horsleydown. 1711.
Russell, William, M.A., M.D., of Dean Street and High Hall. Messenger. Author. I. xvi., xii., xlvii., Association 1698-1701.
Rust, John, of Park. 1739, 40, 42-44, 52, 56-58. 1752 entered as Horsleydown.
Rutter, David, of Eythorn. 1710, 14, 15.
Rutter, John. I. xli.

Sadler, Thomas. Ditchling, 1799. Horsham 1801, 06.
Sale, David, of Sevenoaks. 1751, 52, 54, 64, 66-72, 75, 77-88.
Sale, Robert, of Sevenoaks. 1762, 83, 85, 88, 97.
Sampson, James, Elder of Tiverton. 1731, 32, 39 note.
Sanders, James, of Sevenoaks. 1772-74, 76.
Sanders, Matthew, of Norgame. I. xlvii.
Sanders, Richard, of Warbleton. 1775.
Sanders, Robert, Elder of Turner's Hill. 1731, 32.
Sarjant, John, of Eye. I. xlvii. Compare Sergeant.
Sarney, John, of Hillsley. 1734.
Saunders, John, Elder of Biddenden. 1704, 10.
Saunders, John, of Boughton. 1714.
Saunders, Richard, of Biddenden. 1711.
Saunders, Mr., of Waldron. 1808, 10.
Saxley. 1794.
Saxton. See Sexton.
Sayer, Joseph, of Canterbury. 1783.
Scarlet, Thomas, of Parliament Court. 1803.
Seaton, Joseph, Elder of Smarden. 1773, 74, 78, 80, 83, 85-91, 99, 1800, 01, 03, 05.
Se burrow. 1691.
Seele, Thomas. 1660.
Sergeant, Thomas, Elder of Killingholm. Association 1702.
Serles, John, of Ashford. Association 1698.
Sexton, Edward, of Berkhamsted. 1782, 86 Elder, 88-90, 91 preach, 92-98, 1800-06, 08 note.
Sexton, John, of Chatham. 1808, 10, 11.
Sexton, Joseph, of Smarden. 1802.
Sexton, Thomas, Elder of Berkhamsted, 1750. Messenger, 51 chair, 53 mod., 54, 55 mod., 56, 57, 58 mod., 59 mod., 60, 61 mod., 64, 65, 66, 67 mod., 68, 99 chair, 70, 73 mod.
Shalder, Robert, of Burgh. I. xli.
Sharp, Edward. I. xli.
Sharp, Richard, of Lincoln. 1692.
Sharp, Thomas, of Hart Street. Association 1702.
Sharpey, Joshua, of Marden. I. xlvii.
Shearman, John. Whittlesey 1710. Elder of Wisbech 1711, 12, 15, 16.
Shenston, John, of Northants. 1733.
Shenston, Samuel, of Church Lane. 1765.
Shenston, William. 1793, 95.
Sheppard, George, of Warbleton. 1710, 14.
Sheppard, John, of Church Lane. 1765.
Sherbrooke, William, of Shugborough. II. xi.
Shimons, Joseph, of Mersea Isle. 1743.
Shofield, William, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Shrubsale, Phineas, of Canterbury. 1804, 05, 07.

Sickelmore, James, of Chichester. Messenger. I. xvi., 1654.
Silvester, Francis, of Lichfield. II. xi.
Simpson, David, Elder of Dover. 1712, 15.
Simpson, George, of Mill Yard. 1759.
Simpson, John. Elder of Mitcham 1794, 95. Elder of White's Alley 1799-1811.
Simson, John. 1700.
Skeate, James, of Tenterden. I. xlvii.
Skerrett, John, of Manthorpe. I. xli., xlvii.
Skinner, Thomas, of Deptford. Association 1699.
Skipp, Edmund. I. xli.
Slacke, John, of "Berryhill." II. xi.
Slater, Joseph, of Northants. II. xvi.
Slater, Thomas. 1696 note.
Small, Thomas, of Coningsby. 1810, 11.
Smallfield, George. Cranbrook 1805. Lutton 1807, 10 preacher.
Smart, William, of Wingrave. I. xlvii., 1693.
Smith, Edmond, of Wisbech. II. xvi., I. xlvii.
Smith, Edward, of Mount Sorrel. II. xi., I. xlvii.
Smith, Francis, of Cornhill and Croydon. 1660, I. xli., xlvii.
Smith, George, of Dunning's Alley. 1702, 04, 09, 10.
Smith, James, Elder of Hart Street. 1731-37, 1738 note.
Smith, John, of Lincoln, Gainsborough & Amsterdam. Author. The original General Baptist. I. xii., xvii., xli., II. 53.
Smith, John, 1696 note, 1698.
Smith, John, 1696 note—another.
Smith, John, of Burnham. 1710.
Smith, John, Elder of Chichester. 1721.
Smith, John, of Chichester. 1728, 31, 33, 34.
Smith, John, of Cranbrook. 1734.
Smith, Thomas. 1660, I. xli.
Smith, William, of Welton. II. xvi., I. xli., 1691-93, 96. Elder at Association 1701-03.
Smith, William, of Chichester. 1709, 11, 14 Elder.
Smith, William, of Horsleydown. 1714, 15.
Snell, Anthony, of Thorp. 1651.
Snellgrove, Richard, of Ditchling. 1795, 1802.
Snellgrove, Richard, of Lewes. 1800, 02 Elder, 03, 04, 06, 07.
Snoath, Henry, of Boughton. I. xlvii.
Snow, James, of Sevenoaks. 1721, 24, 33, 44.
Sothenwood, William, Elder of Wymiswold. Association 1700.
Soulden, William, of Lincolnshire. 1767.
Southon, Abraham, of Horsham. 1764.
Southon, Thomas, of Horsham. 1704, 09, 11 Elder, 12, 14-16, 19, 24, 28, 31, 32.
Sowthwood, Thomas. I. xli.
Spence, Isaac, of Peterborough. I. xlvii.
Spence, William. 1656.
Spershott, James, of Chichester. 1735, 37, 43, 44, 47, 48, 51, 65 Elder, 67.
Spitstead, William, of Hythe. 1704, 28 Elder.
Sprake, William, Elder in Western Association. 1714, 39.
Sprigen, John, of Berkhamsted. 1776, 79, 81.
Squire, Joseph, of Goswell Street. 1711, 12, 14-16, 19.
Stacey, Ham, of Burnham. 1741, 75, 79, 82, 84-86, 89 Elder.
Stacey, John, of Burnham. 1734.
Stacy, Thomas, 1660.
Stale, Thomas. 1691.
Stanger, John. Leicester 1766. I. xxii. Sevenoaks 1767, 69, 81 note.
Stanger, Matthew, Elder of Harringworth. 1731.
Stanger, Thomas, Elder of North Moulton. 1765, 67, 81 note.
Stanger, William, of Harringworth. II. xvi.
Stanger, William, Elder of North Moulton, Messenger. 1731, 33, 35.
Stanger, William, of Morcott. II. 172.
Stanger, William [of Fleet?], 1803.
Stanley, Edward. 1660.
Stanley, Francis, of Ravensthorpe. 1651, II. xi., 1660, I. xli., II. xiv., Messenger, 1691, 92, 93, 96, 1755.
Staughton, John, of Blisworth. II. xvi.
Staughton, Zacharias, Elder of Leicester. 1714.
Steed, on Tower Hill. 1733.
(Stennett, Joseph, senior. II. 21, 49.)
(Stennett, Samuel, D.D. 1767, 72 note.)
Stephenson, William. 1781.
Stevens, Edward, of Fenstanton. I. xli.
Steward, John, of Bessel's Green. 1810, 11.
(Stinton, Benjamin. I. lxxi., II. 50.)

Stotesbury, Robert, of Walsall. II. xi.
Sturch, John, of Aylesbury. Association 1704.
Sturch, John, Elder of Portsmouth. 1731, 32 scribe, 33s, 34s, 36s, 37s, 39s, 44s, 45s, 47s, 54, 57. Elder of Newport 62, 69, 71 chair, 75 chair, 83, 87.
Sturch, William, Elder of Wing. Association 1698, 1702, 04.
Sturgion, John. Author. I. xli.
Summers, William, Elder of Park. 1768, 69.
Swinden, Francis, of Brentford. 1758-60, 63, 75? 78.
Swinden, Joseph. 1762, 75?
Swinden, Nathanael, of Brentford. Association 1701-03.
Swinden, William. 1702.

Tarratt, John, of Hythe. 1803 note, 04.
Tasker, John, of Horsham. 1724, 25, 28, 31, 32-35 scribe, 37-42sc., 44-53sc., 56, 57, 58, 61, 62, 63. Elder in 1734.
Tassall, John, of Frittenden. 1712.
Tatner, T., of Chatham. 1803.
Taverner, Samuel, of Dover. I. xlvii., 1692, 93.
(Taylor, Adam. I. lxxvii., II. 189, 265, 276, 285.)
Taylor, Dan. Lincolnshire [Birchcliff] I. xxiv., 64, 65, 67 Elder. "Leicestershire" [New Connexion, Northern Association, being also Elder of Church Lane] 1784, 86, 87 preach, 88 mod., 89, 90 chair, 92 chair, 93, 95 chair, 96, 97 chair, 98, 99, 1800 chair, 02 mod., 03 withdraws, 09.
Taylor, Giles, of Trumpington. I. xlvii.
Taylor, John, Elder of Park. 1710, 11, 12, 14, 15.
Taylor, Joseph, of White's Alley. 1692, Association 97-99.
Taylor, Joseph, of Brentford. Association, 1704.
Taylor, Richard. I. xli.
Taylor, Thomas, of Wisbech. I. xlvii.
Teaslow, Robert, of Ravensthorpe. II. xi.
Teem, Henry, of Brentford. Association. 1700.
Tempest, William, of Cranbrook. 1728.
Templeman, John. 1654.
Tentoft, James, of Thorp. 1651.
Terry, Thomas, of Milton. I. xlvii.
Thomas, David. 1802, Lynn 03.
Thomas, William. 1802, 06, 10.
(Thompson, Josiah, of Unicorn Yard. 1774.)
Thompson, Robert, of Leasingham. 1651, 54.
Thompson, Thomas, of Chatham. 1802-08.
Thompson, William, of Boston. 1791 note.
Thorp, John, of Frampton. I. xli., xlvii.
Thrussell, William, Elder of Berkhamsted. 1783 moderator.
Tiddiman, Richard, of Goswell Street. 1732.
Tide, Samuel, of Sundon. 1651.
Tidman, William. I. xli.
Tiptaft, Simon, of Horsleydown. 1746, 51, 58, 60.
Titford, Charles, of Cranbrook. 1764, 66, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77-83.
Titford, Isaac, of Cranbrook. 1809.
Titford, William, of Goswell Street (lived 2 Union Street, Bishopsgate). 1789, 93-98, 1800-11. Treasurer of Messenger's Fund from 1803.
Tomkins, William. I. xli.
Tomlinson, John, of Parwick. II. xi.
Tomlinson, William, of Burton. I. xli.
Tookey, Elias, of London. I. l.
Tookey, Thomas. Author. I. xlii.
Toppin, George, of Berkhamsted. 1692, Association 1702.
Tory, Stephen, of Bell Lane, Stepney. I. xlii., xlviii., l.
Toulmin, Joshua, M.A., of Taunton. 1772 note, 75, 80 note, 88, 1800 D.D., 04 address.
Townsend, John, of Western Association. 1721.
Townsend, Thomas, of Bitteswell. I. xlii., II. xi.
Treacher, Benjamin, Elder of Goswell Street. 1758-64. Dies 66.
Treacher, James, of Goswell Street. 1794. Query, error for John?
Treacher, John, of Berkhamsted. Association 1703.
Treacher, John, of Park. 1745-55.
Treacher, John, of Goswell Street. 1781-97, except 1794, 1800-11.
Tripp, Thomas, of Wycombe. Association 1700.
Trulove, John. I. xlviii.
Tucker, William, of Eythorn. 1715.
Tunbridge, Thomas, of Folkestone. I. xlviii.
Turferroy, George, of Horsleydown. 1743.
Turll, Thomas, of Turner's Hill. 1762, 67 Elder, 68, 70, 71, 73-77, 79-81, 83-88, 90-99.

Turner, Henry, Elder of Coggeshall. 1732, 41, 62, 65.
Turner, Robert, of Amersham. I. xlviii.
Turner, Thomas, of East Grinstead. I. xlviii.
Turner, William, of Horsham. 1756, 58, 66-68.
Twillford, Elder of Deal. 1704. Compare Fullford.
Twining, of Trowbridge. 1799, 1800 dead.
Twist, Thomas, of Deal. 1712.
Tyms, John, of Deptford. Association 1699.

Ullyott, Thomas, of Elsham. Association, Elder, 1703. Messenger at Assembly 1709, 10, 16.
Unicum, Creasy, of Cranbrook. 1791, 92.
Upton, James, of Katherine Wheel Alley. 1719.
Uridge, of Kent. II. xiv.

Vidler, William, of Parliament Court. I. xxv., 1801, 03 mod., 04 preach, 05 chair and write, 06-11, (10 mod).
Vilatt, Seth, of Horsleydown. 1754.
Viliott. See Ullyott.
Vincent, William. Messenger in West. 1691-93, 96-98, 1700, 04, 09, 10.

Wade, Joshua, of Goswell Street. 1763.
Walder, James, of Ditchling. 1759, 63, 64, 68, 70, 75, 77-80.
Waldron, Miss. 1795.
Wale, Richard, of Pinchbeck. I. xlviii.
Wall, Matthew, of Upminster. 1744, 46, 50.
Waller, Thomas, of Swaffham. I. xlviii.
Walton, Humphrey. 1696 note.
Ward, Daniel, of Northants. 1733.
Ward, John, of Goswell Street. 1747, 48.
Ward, Thomas, of High Hall. Association 1703.
Ware, John, of Berkhamsted. Association 1702.
Warten, Will. 1740.
Warwike, Charles, of Coningsby. I. xlii.
Watson, Joseph, of Goswell Street. 1768.
Watson, Tobias, of Knipton. I. xlviii.
Watson, William, of White's Alley. 1803, 05, 06.
(Watts, Isaac. II. 21.)
Watts, John. I. xlii.
Watts, Matthew, of Hornchurch. 1733.
Weald, Joseph. 1788, I. lxxiv., 1793, 94, Deptford 1802, Goswell Street 10, Brentford 11.
(Weatherley, John, of Pinners Hall. II. 50, 145.)
Webb, Nathanael, Elder of Ditchling. 1704, 15, 24.
Webb, Nathanael, of Ditchling. 1732. 35, 36, 44, 52, 54, 63, 66, 71, 72.
Webb, Peter, of Croydon. 1731-33,
Webb, Richard, of Worplesdon. 1702, 15 Elder.
Wedgeborough, Joseph, of Church Lane. 1764.
Wells, John, of Barnet. 1660, 92, 93. Association 1702.
Wells, John, of Horsham. 1753.
Wells, Moses, of Stickford. I. xlviii.
Wells, Richard, of Deptford. Association 1697.
Wells, W., Elder of Norwich. 1704.
Wells, William, of Leicester. I. xlviii.
Welsh, Joseph, of White's Alley. Association 1704.
Welton, Abraham, Elder of Coventry. 1731.
Welton, Samuel, Elder of Coventry. 1731, 33-35.
Westerman, Richard, of Bradburn. 1724.
Wheeler, Daniel, of South Carolina. 1758, 61, 62, Appendix.
Wheeler, John, of Elstead. Messenger. 1656.
Wheeler, Joseph. 1731.
Wheeler, William, of Hart Street. 1737.
Whiston, Edward, of East Smithfield. I. lii.
Whitcombe, Francis, of Park. 1691, 1702, 04, 10.
Whitcombe, Richard. 1702.
White, Benjamin, of Virginia Street. 1739, 43, 47.
White, George, of Dockhead. 1691, 96-98, 1702.
White, Thomas, of Bradburn. Messenger. 1714. Sent to Virginia. Died on the voyage. Appendix.
Whiticar, Michael. 1660.
Wilcocks, Francis. I. xlii. Query, General?
Wild, Jeffery. I. xlviii.
Wilde, William, of Normanton. I. xlii.
Wildman, John. I. xlii.
Wilkes, Thomas, of White's Alley. Association 1703.
Wilkin, David, Elder of Halstead. 1769, 70 secede.

Wilkins, Leonard, of Winslow. I. xlviii., Association 1700, Elder 1703, 04.
Wilkinson, Daniel. 1696 note.
Wilkinson, Richard. I. xlii.
Willford of Canterbury. 1704. Compare Fullford and Twillford.
Williams, Ambrose, of Park. 1702.
Williams, Charles, of Mill Yard. 1761, 66, 70 secedes.
Williams, Thomas, of Westby. Messenger. I. xxviii., xlii.
Williams, William. I. xlii.
Williamson, Thomas, of Scotter. I. xlviii.
Willis, Thomas. I. xlii.
Willmott, David, of Mill Yard. 1761, 62.
Willmott, Stephen, of Church Lane. 1765.
Wills, Richard, of Marston. 1651.
Wilson, John. Messenger. 1654.
Wing, John, of Coggeshall. 1768.
Wise, of Chatham. 1803, 06.
Withers, Ebenezer, Elder of Portsmouth. 1808, 10.
Wood, Edward, Elder of Alford. I. xlii., 1693? 1710.
Wood, Henry, of Ditchling. 1721, 24.
Wood, Henry, of Horsham. 1754, 60.
Wood, John, of Killingholm. 1656, 60.
Wood, Robert, of Carlton. I. xlviii.
Wood, William, of Ditchling. 1704, 10, 19. Messenger, 21 mod., 24, 25 mod.
Woodfield. 1691.
Woodham, John, of Deptford. Association 1698, 1699.
Woodham, Thomas, of Farnham. 1789.
Woodham, William, Elder of Deptford. Association 1697-99.
Woolhouse, William, of Carlton. I. xlviii.
Worsley, William, of Hawkhurst. I. xlviii.
Wray, Richard. I. xlii.
Wright, George. 1660.
Wright, Joseph, of Maidstone. Messenger. I. xxviii., xlii., 1656, 1660.
Wright, Richard, of Wisbech. I. xxv., 1803, 04, 05, 07 mod and write, 08 preach, 09 mod., 10, 11 mod.
Wright, Samuel, of Northants. Association. 1702-04.
Wright, Samuel, of Spalding. 1791 note.
Wright, Thomas, of Burton. II. xi.
Wyatt, William, of Long Crendon. I. xlviii.

Yeomans, John, of Deptford. Association 1699. 1800 note.
Yeomans, John, of Kettering. 1756, 61, 63, 69.
York, Thomas, of Horsleydown. 1753.
Young, James, Elder of Berkhamsted. 1751, 56, 61, 62, 63, 69.
Young, Ledbrook, of Berkhamsted. 1798.
Young, Richard, of Berkhamsted. I. xlviii.

Zillye, William. I. xlii.

INDEX TO PLACES.

All the names are given in alphabetical order, spelt as in Bartholomew's Gazetteer of 1904. Cross references are given from exceptional forms habitual in the Minutes. A classified county list will be found at I. lvi., and a shorter one at II. x: the former presents a condensed view of the church history to the present century, including other references than those in the Minutes, these are not repeated here. As several churches changed their meeting places, the actual home is given for each period, with references to the preceding and succeeding places: a special note as to this is given at I. l. and lv. (A few churches which did not belong to the Assembly are also indexed in brackets.) Living churches in the Assembly are starred, e.g. *Bessels Green. [The present affiliations of living churches not now in the Assembly are added in square brackets.] In a few instances, by a species of re-action, hyper-Calvinistic Baptist churches have arisen in the same villages, as in Cuckfield, Smarden. No notice is taken of these. The century number is not repeated; thus 1701, 05-09, 33 means 1701, 1705-1709, 1733.

Alford, Lincs. I. xvi. 1693.
America. II. 307, and for notices:—
    Carolina. 1702, 37-39, 56-63, 72, 73, 94.
    Virginia. 1714, 24, 25, 94.
    Rhode Island. 1654 note, 1660, note, 1768, 94.
    Maryland. 1798, 1802.
Amersham, Bucks. I. xvii., 1731-42, 44-56, 59-61, 79.
(Artillery Lane, Spitalfields. I. liii., 100, II. 49, 151.)
Ashford, Derbyshire. 1777 note.
Ashford, Kent. Association 1697, 1700.
Asterby, Lincs. 1791 note.
Aylesbury, Bucks. I. xvii. Association 1697-1702. Assembly 1731, 47-49, 52, 53, 86.

Baltimore, Maryland. 1798, 1802.
Barbican, Paul's Alley. (a) Gosnold's church. I. xvi., xxxii., liii., 100.
    (b) "White's Alley" church 1745-1781, though not so disclosed in the Minutes, II. 51 note. 1772-81, when see Worship Street.
    (c) "Glasshouse" church from Horsleydown, 1769-1781, when see Worship Street.
    (d) Used for the Assembly, 1772-1779. Lease sought 1778, abandoned 1781.
Barcombe. See Ditchling 1806-11.
Barden. See Boughton.
Barnet, Herts. 1692, 93, 1736, 38, 39.
Basingstoke, Hants. 1711.
Battle, Northiam and Rye, Sussex. 1804, 07-11.
Bell Alley. I. l. See White's Alley.
Berkhamsted, Herts. 1692. Association 1697-1702. 1709, 51-75, 77-86, 88-99, 1800-06. [1809 joined the New Connexion; to-day in the Baptist Union.]
"Berryhill," Staffs. II. xi. Not identified.
*Bessel's Green, Kent. I. lv. See Sevenoaks till 1764. 1766-1797, 1802, 03, 05, 10, 11. [Change of name, not of site.]
Biddenden, Kent. 1704, 10-12, 14, 28.
*Billingshurst, Sussex. I. lxv., 1807, 08.
(Birchcliff. See Wadsworth.)
Birmingham. See Netherton.
Boar's Head Yard. I. 101.
Boston, Lincs. 1696, 1750, 51, 91 notes. Appendix. [1770 joined the New Connexion; to-day in the Baptist Union.]
Boughton Monchelsea, Kent. 1712, 14.

Bourne, Lincs. Association 1719. 1753. [1799 New Connexion; Baptist Union.]

Bradbourne and Sevenoaks, Kent. (a) The Tunbridge Wells branch, I. lxix., lxxvii. (b) the Sevenoaks and Bessel's Green branch, I. lv. See all three headings.

Braintree, Essex. 1759, 60, 62, 67-69. [In the Essex Union.]

Brentford, Middlesex. 1692. Association 1698-1702. 1731, 37, 39, 53?, 57-59, 61-66, 68-71, 73-89, 91-1800, 1802-11.

Bridgnorth, Salop. II. xi. (1652).

Brighton, Sussex. 1803, 06, 08-11.

Bristol. 1788 note.

Broadstairs, Kent. 1795 note.

Buckby Mill, Northants. 1733.

Burgh, Lincs. 1795 note. Compare Monksthorpe.

Burnham, Essex. 1697, 1700, 02, 04, 10, 12, 16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 33, 34, 38, 41. 1775 admitted, 79, 82, 88, 89. [In the Baptist Union.]

(Burnley, Lancs. 1790, 91 note.)

Burton-on-Trent, Staffs. (1652) II. xl.

Bury Street. Home of "Horsleydown" 1789-1791. See I. li., II. 245, Pinner's Hall, Worship Street.

*Canterbury, Kent. I. x. 1704, 11, 14-16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 32, 33, 35, 39 note, 54, 55, 57-67, 69-72, 74, 75, 77, 78, 1780-1811.

Carolina. Association 1702. 1737-39, 56-59, 61-63, 72, 73, 94.

Castle Hedingham, Essex. 1737, 38, 41 building, 43, 66-69, 70 secede. Compare Halstead.

(Cauldwell, Derby. 1791 note.)

*Chatham, Kent. 1692, 1741, 51-53, 55, 56, 58-62, 63, 65-84, 86-99. 1800 new lease for 99 years, 1802 building, 03-11.

(Chatteris, Isle of Ely, Cambs. 1791 note.) The village had a congregation from 1651-1690, in touch with Fenstanton, as those records disclose: compare Isle of Ely, Whittlesey.

Chesham, Bucks. I. xvii., 1751, 1791 note, 1800. [Baptist Union.]

*Chichester, Sussex. I. xvi., 1697, 1709-12, 14-16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31-35, 37-44, 47-52, 54-60, 62, 64, 65, 67, 78, 89, 1801, 02. Entertained the Assembly 1721.

Church Lane, Whitechapel. I. lii. Home of "Goodman's Fields" from 1763, before which see Mill Yard, 1770 secede. [1786 New Connexion, 1821 abandoned for Commercial Road, now in Baptist Union.]

Coggeshall, Essex. 1732, 41, 60?, 61, 65, 67-69, 70 secede. 1787, 89, 91-93.

Colchester, Essex. 1697, 1704, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 57 dissolved.

Coningsby, Lincs. 1751-60, 91 note, 1809, 10, 11 building. [1830 New Connexion: Baptist Union.]

Covent Garden. See Hart Street.

Coventry, Warwick. I. xii., xiii., xv. 1731, 32.

*Cranbrook, Kent. 1712, 25, 28, 31-34, 36-39, 53-56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66-99, 1800-11. Building in 1809.

Crediton, Devon. 1739?, 42.

Croydon, Surrey. 1656, 72, 1731-37, 40-56, 58-61, 63, 66, 71, 72.

Cuckfield. See Ditchling 1806-11.

Cuddington, Bucks. Association 1697-1702, 1709. Compare Ford, Winslow.

*Deal, Kent. 1704, 12, 70 secede. 1783-86, 89, 90, 92-95, 1797-1803, 05, 06.

Dean Street. I. liii., 53. See High Hall.

Dedham, Essex. 1692, 1704.

Deer Creek, Maryland. 1798.

*Deptford, Kent. I. xvii. Association 1697-99. 1797, 98, 1800 note, 01 reopened, 02, 03, 04 unite with the immigrant Horsleydown church, 05-11.

*Ditchling, Sussex. 1704, 10, 15, 19, 21, 24, 25, 31-35, 40, 42-44, 47, 49-65, 67-75, 77-99, 1801-05, with Cuckfield and Barcombe 1806-11.

*Dockhead, Shad Thames, Southwark. I. xvi., xix., l., li.

*Dover, Kent. 1692, 93, 1715, 19, 21, 28, 32, 33, 35, 36, 39 note, 43, 45-58, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 82-93, 96, 97, 1800, 01, 02, 04-11.

Downton, Wilts. 1691, 92, 1702, 04, 09, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 21, 24, 31-35, 38, 39, 45, 58, 95 note. [New Connexion 1804. Baptist Union.]

Dublin. 1714, 34, 59-63.

Duke Street, Southwark. I. lii. See Park.

Dunning's Alley, Bishopsgate. I. xvi., li. 1702, 04, 09-12, 14-16, then see Katherine Wheel Alley. Entertained the Assembly 1709-1712.

Earl Shilton, Leicester. 1758, 59, 61. [Merge with Hinckley New Connexion 1808. Separate church 1820. Baptist Union.]
Ely, Isle of. I. xv. Association 1700, 04, 31. See Whittlesey, Wisbech.
(Epworth and Butterwick. I. xvii.)
Essex Association. 1738, 39, 40, 47, 66.
Eythorn, Kent. 1704, 09-12, 14-16, 21, 59, 60, 62, 64, 66, 70 secede. [Baptist Union.]

*Fair Street. See Horsleydown and I. li.
*Farnham, Surrey. This name appears instead of "Webston" or Worplesdon after 1774. 1776, 78-95, 98, 1801-03, 08-11, when the title appears as Farnham, Worplesdon & Godalming. New building in 1787. Known to-day as Godalming.
Fenstanton, Hunts. 1715, 16, 19, 28. See St. Ives.
Feversham, Kent. 1704.
Fleet, Lincs. 1788, 91 note, 95 note. [New Connexion 1812, Baptist Union.]
Folkestone. See Hythe.
Ford, Bucks. 1731-40, 43, 50, 86. [Re-constituted 1814, New Connexion 1820, Baptist Union.]
Frittenden, Kent. 1712, 14, 28.

*Glass-house Yard, Goswell Street. I. xvii., lii. 1691, 92, 96, 97, 1704, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 28, 32-64. Then see Horsleydown (b). The Assembly met here 1696-98, 1714-19, 25, 28, 31, 35-45.
Glazier's Hall, Old Broad Street. The entry on I. liv. is a mistake; this place sheltered an important Particular Baptist church.
*Godalming. See Farnham.
Goodman's Fields. I. xvii., lii. 1691, 92, 96, 97, 1704, 1710. Then see Virginia Street, Mill Yard (b), Church Lane. The Assembly met here 1692, 93, 1704.
(Gosberton, Lincs. 1791 note. New Connexion.)
Goswell Street. See Glass-house Yard.
(Guildford. 1791 note.)
Gumley, Leicester. 1652 II. xi. See Theddingworth.

Halstead, Essex. 1769, 1770 secede. [Baptist Union.]
Harringworth, Northants. 1735 building. See Morcott, Rutland.
Hart Street, Covent Garden. I. liii., 1692, Association 1700, 02. 1731-37.
"Hawsbury." 1753. Hawksbury is near Coventry, in the midst of a General Baptist area.
*Headcorn, Kent. 1735, 36, 50, 53-58, 68-72, 74-99, 1800-11.
High Hall. I. liii. Association 1698-1702.
Hillsley, Gloucester. 1732-37, 42, 44, 48, 51-53, 55, 59, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 71. [Baptist Union.]
Honiton, Devon. 1758.
*Horley, Surrey. See Turner's Hill till 1768. 1769-81, 1783-1802. Then see Nutfield.
Hornchurch, Essex. 1731-37. Then Upminster. Compare Pilgrim's Hatch.
*Horsham, Sussex. I. xvi., II. xii. 1691, 92, 96, 1704, 09-12, 14-16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31-35, 37-99, 1800-05, 1807 with Billingshurst, 08. Entertained Assembly 1724.
*Horsleydown, Fair Street. (a) From Dockhead, I. li. 1691, 92, 96, 97, 1704, 11, 12, 14-16, 19, 28, 31-71. Then to Pinner's Hall. Entertained Assembly 1700, 02, 46-71. (b) From Goswell Street, Glass-house Yard, 1764-68. Then to Barbican.
Hull, Yorks. 1807-10.
Hythe and Folkestone, Kent. 1692, 1701, 04, 09, 11, 12, 21, 25, 28 [when a secession took place, Wood, page 149], 31, 32, 67, 70-75, 79-83, 89, 90, 95, 97, 98.

Ipswich, Suffolk. 1810, 11.
Ireland. 1714, 34, 59-63.

Katherine Wheel Alley. I. lii., 101. From Dunning's Alley, 1719-28.
Kentish Association. I. xxix., lxxii. 1704, 09, 11, 14-16, 25, 41, 44, 51, 71, 77, 94.
Kettering, Northants. 1756, 61, 63. [Baptist Union?]
Killingholme, Lincs. Association 1702. 1709, 10, 16, 95 note. [New Connexion 1778. Station of Grimsby, a Baptist Union church.]
Knipton, Leicester. 1795 note. [Lincs. Association 1769, New Connexion 1801.]

Leicestershire Association. (a) 1731, 33-37, 48-58, 61, 63, 66. See II. 172. (b) The New Connexion, Northern Association. I. xxiv., 1770, 77, 84, 85. Affiliates 1786,

87-90, 94, 96, 97, 1801, 02, 03 withdraws. Note follows.
Leicester, Friar Lane. 1692, 1714, 55, 56, 58, 61, 62, 66, [1783 New Connexion], 1805, 08. [Baptist Union.]
Leighton Buzzard, Beds. 1731, 32, 34.
Leominster, Hereford. 1691.
*Lewes, Sussex. 1793, 95, 1802-04, 06-11.
Lichfield, Staffs. 1652, II. xi.
Lincolnshire Association. 1692, 1702, 03, 09, 12, 14, 16, 35, 38, 50-60, 64, 65, 67, 71, 76, 80, 81, 84-88, 93, 1802, 08, 10. See II. 205.
Lincoln. 1693, 97, 1751, 1803. [Baptist Union.]
London churches. I. l., 33, 100, 136, II. 49, 51, 55.
(Long Sutton. II. 265. New Connexion.)
(Longwood. 1791 note. New Connexion.)
Louth, Lincs. 1795 note
Luton and Kempton, Beds. Association 1700. [Baptist Union.]
*Lutton, Lincs. 1804-11.
Lyndhurst, Hants. 1714-16, 19, 21, 24, 31, 34, 36-41, 95 note. [New Connexion 1843. Baptist Union.]
Lynn, Norfolk. I. xvii., 1698, 1801-4. [Baptist Union.]

Maidenhead, Berks. 1731.
Maidstone, Kent. 1704, 12, 31, 32, 42, 55, 91 note.
(Maltby, Lincs. 1795 note. New Connexion.)
March, Isle of Ely, Cambs. 1791 note. [New Connexion 1800.]
Marden, Kent. 1692, 1714, 32, 38, 48, 54.
Melbourn, Cambs. 1715, 65, 68, 84-91, 93, 99, 1810. [Baptist Union.]
Mersea Island, Essex. 1732-52.
Milborne Port, Somerset. 1728, 37.
Mill Yard, Goodman's Fields. I. liii., 100, II. 49, 55, 62. (a) Sabbatarian Arminian, joined Assembly 1843? (b) Used by Goodman's Fields church from Virginia Street 1742-62, which then went on to Church Lane. (c) Used by the Assembly 1780.
Mitcham, Surrey. 1791-5. Merged with White's Alley?
Monksthorpe, Lincs. 1791 note. Compare Burgh. The two exist to-day as one church, not affiliated.
Morcott, Rutland. 1731. Compare Harringworth. [Baptist Union.]
Moreton Hampstead, Devon. 1780, 82, 83, 88 note, 91 note. [With Bovey Tracey in the Baptist Union.]

Nantwich, Cheshire. II. 51, 145.
Netherton, near Birmingham, Worcestershire. 1732, 1802. [New church in 1820 in the old premises joined the New Connexion. Baptist Union.]
Newport, Isle of Wight. 1721, 31?, 32-34, 36, 37, 39, 62, 69, 71, 75, 83, 87, 1802-05, 07, 10, 11. [Not Baptist in 1838.]
Northamptonshire Association. 1691-93, 96, 98, 1700-2, Association 1703. 1731-35, 42, 49, 61, 63, 65-67, 69, 81 note.
Northern Association. 1693, 97, 1702. See also next Index.
*Northiam, Sussex. 1809-11.
North Moulton, Northants. 1731, 61, 65, 67, 81 note.
Norwich. (a) White Friars' Priory Yard. I. xvii., 1689. Association 1698, 1700. 1702, 04, 10-12, 14, 15, 19, 24, 25, 31, 50-52, 56-63, 65-70, 72, 79. [New Connexion 1819. Baptist Union.] (b) Ber Street? 1786-88, 92, 97, 98 twice, 99 twice, 1800-11.
Nottingham. Association 1700.
*Nutfield, Surrey. 1791 note, 1810, 11. See Horley.

Oxted, Surrey. 1791 note.

Park, i.e. Duke Street, Winchester Park, Southwark. I. xvii., li., lii. 1691, 92, 1702, 04, 10-12, 14, 15, 21 note, 28, 32, 36-40, 42-60, 61 rebuild, 62-69, 70 notes. [1800 to Gravel Lane, New Connexion. Now at Borough Road: Baptist Union.]
Parliament Court, Spitalfields. 1802-11.
Parwich, Derby. 1652, II. xi.
Paul's Alley. See Barbican.
Peterborough and Whittlesey. 1715, 37, 95 note. [Peterborough joined New Connexion 1801. Baptist Union.]
Pilgrim's Hatch, Essex. Association 1700. See Hornchurch, Upminster.
Pinner's Hall, Old Broad Street. Used by Horsleydown church 1771-79, when see Bury Street.
*Portsmouth. 1691-93. [Lease on St. Thomas Street], 96, 1700, 09, 10-12, 14, [rebuild 15], 16, 21, 28, 44, 45, 47, 48, [baptistery

50], 54, 57, 59-67, 70-73, 75, 76, 78, 83-97, [98 build at Portsea] 1799-1811.

(Queenshead, Yorks. 1791 note.)

Rainham, Essex. Association 1697-1702.
Ramsgate, Kent. I. xxiii., 1734, 41, 42, 44-49, 51, 52, 54, 58, 62, 64, 66, 67, 69-72, 84 note, 85, 86, 87, 89, 91, 1806, 10. [New Connexion 1844. Disbanded 1884.]
Ravensthorpe, Northants. II. xvi., 1691-93, 96.
Rhode Island, America. I. lvi, 5, 22. 1768, 1794. Appendix.
*Rushall, Wilts. 1748, 50, 68, 91 note. [New Connexion 1840.]

*Saffron Walden, Essex. 1734, 41, 86, 90, 91 note, 92-99, 1800-11.
Saint Ives, Hunts. 1753, 55, 58, 59, 61, 65, 66, 67, 71. The old Fenstanton church. [New Connexion 1790.]
Salem, near Carmarthen. 1801 note, 1808.
*Sevenoaks. I. lv. 1692, 93, 1704, 09, 10-12, 14-16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31-35, 38, 40-64. Site unchanged, new name of Bessel's Green, which see.
*Shad Thames. I. xvi., xix., l., li. Also I. li. above.
Shrewsbury. 1692. [Baptist Union?]
Shugborough, Staffs. II. xi.
Smallburgh, Norfolk. 1715, 16, 58, 59, 61, 62.
Smarden, Kent. 1736, 41, 46, 54, 58. 1772 admitted, 73-75, 78-80, 82, 83, 85-97, 99, 1800-10. [New Connexion 1818. Kent and Sussex Association.]
Smeeton, Leicester. 1761. [Branch of Archdeacon Lane, Leicester?]
Soham, Cambs. I. xxvi. 1810, 11.
South Mimms. See Barnet.
Southwick, [Sussex?] 1791 note.
Spalding, Lincs. 1709, 10, 91 note, 96. [New Connexion 1799. Baptist Union.]
Speldhurst and Pembury, Kent. 1704. Then see Tunbridge Wells.
Spitalfields. (a) The original General Baptist church. I. xiii., l. (b) See Artillery Lane.
Spratton, Northants. 1735, 91 note.
Stafford. II. xi.
Staplehurst. See Smarden.
Stelling, Kent. 1764, 70, 72.
"Stone House in Stafford." 1691. [Stone House is in Salop, 20 miles from either Bridgnorth or Shrewsbury, the nearest Baptist churches in that century. Stone is midway between Stafford and Newcastle-under-Lyme.]
"Stone, South Carolina." 1737, 38, 59-63. [Probably false reading for Stono: see Appendix to Vol. II.]
Stony Stratford, Bucks. I. xxi., 1731-33. [Baptist Union.]
Sudbury, Suffolk. 1746-49.
Sundon, Beds. 1755 note, 59. [Branch of Houghton.]
Sutton. See Lutton.

Taunton, Somerset. 1693.
Tetney, Lincs. 1791 note.
Thetford, Norfolk. 1791 note.
Tilbury, Essex. 1692. Compare Rainham, Hornchurch, Upminster.
Tiverton, Devon. 1731, 32, 39, 88 note. [Baptist Union.]
*Trowbridge, Wilts. 1795.
Tunbridge Wells, Kent. See Speldhurst and Pembury. 1709-12, 15, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, I. xxi., 1731, 33-35, 37-47, 49-59, 61, 63, 65-69, 75. I. lxxvii.
Tur Langton, Leicester. 1732.
*Turners Hill, Sussex. 1712, 15, 24, 31-34, 41, 43-54, 56-69. Then see Horley.

Upminster, Essex. From Hornchurch. 1737-44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53.

Virginia, America. 1714, 24, 25, 94. Appendix.
Virginia Street, Whitechapel. (a) 1709 note. (b) From Goodman's Fields, I. lii., II. 21. 1724, 28, 32-41. Then see Mill Yard(b).

(Wadsworth, Yorks. 1764, 65, 70 note, 91 note.)
Waldron, Sussex. See Warbleton. 1769, 70-78, 81, 82, 89, 92, 97, 1804, 05, 07-10.
Wales. 1800-08.
Walsall, Staffs. II. xi.
Warbleton, Sussex. 1704, 09, 10-12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 24, 31-40, 49, 53, 54, 56, 58, 60-64, 67-69. Then see Waldron.
Webstone. See Worplesdon, Farnham, Godalming.
Wedmore, Somerset. 1802, 03. [Baptist Union.]
Welton, Northants. 1691-93. Association 1701, 02.

Wendover, Bucks. 1735, 50, 86. [New Connexion, 1819. Baptist Union.]

Western Association. (a) II. x., 1691-93, 96-98, 1702, 09-12, 14, 15, 24, 25, 28, 33-43, 55 dissolved. (b) 1808.

White's Alley, Little Moorfields. I. xvii., l., 1691, 92, Association 1697-1702. 1705-09 at I. 151. 1736-39. In 1745 move to Barbican, where see (b).

Whittlesey, Isle of Ely, Cambs. 1709-12, 14-16.

Wilbraham, Cambs. 1693, see Melbourn. Association 1697, 1700, 01, 14, 15.

Wing, Bucks. 1692. Association 1698, 99, 1702.

Wingham, Kent. 1739 note, 66, 67, 82-89, 93, 95.

Winslow, Bucks. 1692. Association 1697, 98, 1700-02, 31-37, 39-42, 44, 45, 47, 50, 55, 57, 86.

Wisbech, Isle of Ely, Cambs. (a) 1712, [New Connexion 1785] 91 note. (b) 1805-11.

*Worplesdon or "Webstone," Surrey. 1702, 04, 10-12, 14, 15, 21, 24, 25, 31-36, 38, 39, 42-74. Then see Farnham till 1811.

Worship Street or Hogg Lane, Shoreditch. Building erected in 1780, see note to 1781. (a) "White's Alley" in afternoon from Barbican. 1781-86, 88-99, 1800-11. See I. li. (b) *"Horsleydown," from Bury Street. 1781-99, on 25 March 1801 to Deptford, which see. I. li. (c) *"Glass-house Yard" from Barbican. 1781-1811. See I. liii. (d) Used also by a church from Artillery Lane, Pinner's Hall, Bury Street, whose pastor Jeffries was a personal member. But by 1794 at latest the building belonged equally to the other three. (e) The Assembly met here from 1781.

Wrington, Somerset. 1691-93, 96, 1709.

Wycombe, Bucks. Association 1697, 99, 1700. 1737-40, 51, 86, 97, 98. [Baptist Union.]

Wymeswold, Leicester. Association 1700.

Yarmouth, Norfolk. I. xvii., 1734, 35, 55. [New Connexion 1778-97, 1819.]

Yorkshire. 1692, 93, 97.

INDEX TO TOPICS

The century number is not always repeated. 1701, 09, 15, 24 means 1701, 1709, 1715, 1724.

Anabaptists. I. ix.-xviii., xxi., xxvii.
Appeals from churches to Assembly. II. xii., General Association 1697-1704.
Arminianism. I. xiii., xxii.-xxv.
Articles of Union. 1704-09, text and Appendix. 1731-33, 1777.
Assembly. Its nature, I. x., xxx. Authority, II. xii., 1696. Right to convene, 1689. Disruptions and negotiations for reunion, 1696, 1709, 1710, 1728, 1731-33, 1770, 1777, 1784-86, 1803. Membership: of churches 1772, 1775, 1783, 1786, by referendum 1803 ff; two representatives for each church, 1745, tacitly abandoned by 1800; ministers (i.e. lay-preachers) ex-officio 1799; elders ex-officio by custom; credentials for representatives 1752: of persons, 1772, 1796, 1801, 1804. Church members may attend as auditors, 1710 and often. Business prepared by a committee, 1724, 1725. Voting power, 1802, 1803. Rules of debate, 1710. Will not legislate, but will hear appeals from churches, II. xiii., 1696, 1710; these must come after appeal to a sister church and to an association, II. xii., 1740: contrast 1756 and the procedure of the General Association. Disclaims the power of excommunication, 1732. Printing of minutes, 1705 appendix, 1715, 1784, 1807. Assembly books, I. lxix.-lxxvii. Assembly box, 1735. Constituents at various times, I. lvi. ff, II. x., 333. Modern declaration of basis, I. xxvi. Various titles; 1680 compare II. xv. "The General Assembly of Dependent Baptists Convened in London from most parts of the Nation," 1689, 1709, 1711, 1721, 1731, 1744, 1804, note on I. 25. Modern, "The General Baptist Assembly (Incorporated)."
Associations. I. xxvi. (a) District Associations, subordinate to the Assembly, I. x., xxvi., II. xiii.; to precede the Assembly, 1702. See Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Kentish, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, London, Midland, Northamptonshire, Northern, Staffordshire, Western. (b) The General Association, 1697-1704; Minutes printed nearly in full. (c) After 1770, see New Connexion.
Aylesbury Association. 1696, 1734. Compare Bucks.

Baptism. Defined, 1660 xi.; private admissible, 1702; administrator not necessarily an officer, 1702; books recommended, 1788, 1809; to be preached upon, 1807. See also I. x.-xv., xx.
Baptistery at Lincoln. 1791, 92.
Bible Versions. I. xi., 1654 note.
Book Society. 1767.
Bucks Association. I. x., 1691, 98, 1702 and 1703 General Association Minutes, 1734. Compare Aylesbury.
Businesses vacant to be mentioned in the Assembly Letter, 1784.

Calvinism. I. xix., General Association 1697-1700, II. 172, 244.
Catechisms for children. 1715, 32, 49, 72, 73.
Christology. I. xxi.-xxvi., II. xiii. 1656(3), 1660(III), 1691, 92, 93, 96, 1697-1704 Assembly and General Association, 1705-09 Appendix, 1709, 1715, 31-35, 77, 1801-03.
Church and State. 1654, 1656, 1660.
Circular Letter. Canvassing for adherents, General Association 1700, 1701; Assembly 1807, 09. To be printed, 1714, 15, 89, 90, 93-96.
Cock-fighting disqualifies a pastor. 1711.

Communion. Limited to those who have received baptism and the laying on of hands, 1656, 1660 (XII., XIII.) Withheld from those who marry out of Connexion, 1656 (2, 10-14), 1668 (5), until they repent, 1668 (6)—see Marriage—as also from those who countenance excommunicated persons, 1656 (15). Referendum on a cognate point, 1802. Some churches extend communion but not membership to the unbaptized, 1809. Most now believe in baptism, but in practise admit even to membership all who profess allegiance to Christ, I. xxvi.
Confessions of Faith. (a) In Holland, 1609-1614, I. xiii., xvii. (b) In the Midlands, 1651, I. xviii., (c) The London Confession of 1660, I. xviii., 10-22. Ratified by Assembly 1663. Revised and annotated by Grantham in 1678, I. xviii., 10. Approved in this form by Assembly, 1691, 1693, 1697, 1709. Revised by Hooke and William Smith for the General Association, 1702. This revision approved and printed 1703. (d) The Orthodox Creed of 1679, I. xix., 64. (e) The Six Principles of Hebrews VI. 1689, 1707 in Appendix, 1709, 1710, 1728, 1777, 1785. (f) Articles of 1704, 1705 and Appendix. (g) Universal Redemption, 1731. (h) Modern. I. xxvi.
Cottage Meetings. 1724.
Credentials for members removing. 1782, 1807.

Dancing not countenanced. 1711, 71, 80.
Deacons. 1660 (XIX.)
Disciplinary methods. 1656, 1660 (XVII.), II. xii., 1744 letter, 1754.

Education. I. xxxii., 1702, 24, 32, 68, 69, 71, 79, 94. Begun in 1796, then annual reports. See especially 1805 and 1807.
Elders. I. xxxii. Qualifications, 1660 (XV.), 1693. Election by majority suffices, 1702. Ordination of Divine institution, 1702; by a Messenger, or by several Elders, I. xxix., 1702. May not resign, but may be deposed, 1656, 1716. Change of opinion to Calvinism a ground for silencing, 1696. No right to officiate in another church unless specially invited, 1656, 1716. Ex-officio members of Assembly by custom. Life-pastorates as a rule, I. xxxiii., about six exceptions to be traced in index of persons. Their support, 1660 (XV., XVI.), 1704.
Election. 1660 (VIII.)
Essex Association. 1738-40, 47, 66.
Evangelist the same as Apostle. 1700, 02.
Expedient for reconciliation. 1700, 02.

Faith and Practise of 1651. I. xv.
Family Worship. 1732, 53.
Fast Days appointed. 1714, 19, 21, 71, 77.
Feet-washing. I. xxi., xxiii.
Fifth Monarchy. 1654, 1660 (XXII.)
Foreign Missions. 1654 note. See America in Index of Places.
"Free-Grace General Baptists." Title objected to, 1801.

Gambling denounced. 1762, 71, 80, 81.
General. (a) General Baptist; a Baptist who holds that God's election was for men generally and not for particular persons, that Christ's atonement was for all, that every man is at some time capable of being saved. See I. vi., ix., xiv., xx., xxvi., 11 (IV., VIII.-X.), II. 38. The word has no relation to the question of communion. (b) General Assembly; an Assembly open to all churches of the above type. (c) General Association; an association not limited to churches in a particular district, 1697. It lasted till 1704. See I. lxxiv.
General Baptist Fund. Instituted 1725. 1737, 38, 47, 88, 91 note. See II. 306.

Hofmann's Christology. I. x.
Humble Representation and Vindication. 1654.
Hymns. I. 29, II. 15, 18, 21.

Independence of the churches denied. II. xii., I. xxvi., 42, 46; but see I. 45, 57-62.
Infant Baptism, debate challenged. 1709.
Irish affairs. 1714, 16, 19, 21, 24.

Johns, Trustees of Captain Pierce, of White's Alley. 1736, 37 note, 38 note, 39 note, 1803 note.

Kentish Association. I. lxxii., 1704, 19, 71.

Lawsuits permissible in the last resort. I. 7, II. xii.-xv.
Laying on of hands after baptism. I. xx. 1656 (1), 1660 (XII.), 1704 Association, 1791 note. See Six Principles.
Leicestershire Association. (a) 1731 33-37, 48-58, 61, 63, 66, 76 note, 81 note, 84 note. Perhaps part of the Midland Association. (b) A term used here for the Northern Association of the New Connexion, but not apparently accepted by that body. I. xxiv., 1770, 77, 84-90, 94, 96, 97, 1801-03 and note.
(Leicestershire Conference. Originally a meeting of the preachers who formed what became the nucleus of the New Connexion. See notes in 1777, 84, 91, 95, 99, 1803.)
Licenses for preaching. I. lv.-lxvi., 64, 1811 note.
Lincolnshire Association. 1692, 1702 and 1703 both Assembly and Association, 1709, 12, 14, 16, 35, 38, 50-60, 64, 65, 67, I. xxiv., 1771, 76, 80, 81, 84, 85, 87, 88, 93, 1802, 08, 10.
(Lincolnshire Conference of the New Connexion. Notes to 1791, 95, 99.)
Lollards. I. ix., xii.
London Association. I. 33, 65, 99. Compare Northern Association (a).
(London Conference of the New Connexion. 1799 note.)
Lord's Prayer not to be used in worship. 1724.
Lord's Supper administrators. 1700, 1702.

Magistrates 1654, 1656, 1660 (XXIV., XXV.)
Marriage. To be within the community, 1656, 68, 69, 89, 93, 96, 98, 1702 and Association, 1704, 19, 44. I. xxiv. If by National clergy, without ceremonial, 1697. Notice to be given in church meeting, 1698. New law, 1755.
Messenger, a species of diocesan bishop. I. xxviii., xxxiii. The office of Divine institution 1734. Qualifications I. xxx. Suitable men to be sought, 1728, 32, 37, 43, 67, 81, 1800. Need not be Elders first, I. lxxii., 1734; custom reversed, 1768, 80. Nomination by churches, 1711. Consent of the church where he is an officer to be obtained, 1711, 14, 34, 35, 83. Consent of the person to be obtained 1743, 44, 76, 83. Election by churches, not messengers, 1656. Ordination necessary, 1689. Procedure therein, 1711. Office to be held for life, Association 1704. Annual visitation of the churches to be made, 1774. Churches to collect for travelling expenses, 1691, 92, 96, 1704, 10, 11, 24, 71. Special visits to be specially paid for, 1769, 95. Jurisdiction not only over electing churches, but wherever their help is sought, 1756. May be despatched to other regions, 1714, and recalled from them by the Assembly, 1725. Funeral sermons to be preached in every church, 1802. Officer now of the whole Assembly, I. xxx.
Messengers' Fund [founded 1687]. 1691, 1773, 74, 75 when outlay begins to be published, 79 when subscriptions begin to be published, 85 to bear expense of circular letter, 99 this to be paid first, 1807 to bear only half expense of printing. 1803 Titford succeeds Lowdell as treasurer.
Midland Association. I. xviii., xxxv., lvi.-lxvi.
Ministers, i.e., preachers other than Elders or pastors. To be tested and ordained by the churches, 1660, (V.), 1702, 04. Training to be in a London school, Association 1702; in the congregations, 1724, 32; by a tutor, 1790, 92, 96—see Education. To be aided if needy, 1704, 85. Not to baptize or preside at the Lord's Supper, 1702.
Minutes of Assembly to be printed and circulated, 1705, 15, 80; signed by Messengers and Officers only, 1790 onwards. See I. lxix.-lxxviii.
Money help at request of sister church, 1656.
"Monthly Repository." 1806. See Universal Theological Magazine.

"New Connexion of General Baptists." I. xxiv., xxv. Antecedents, 1755, 1763 with note, 1764, 1766, 1769. Founded 1770; divided next year, 1776 note. Negotiations for re-union, 1777.

Gathering in Assembly churches 1781 note, 84 note, 91 note, 95 note. Makes overtures for reunion, 1784 with letter annexed. Reply sent, 1785. Union effected, 1786, with note. Delegates present, 1787-90, 94, 96, 97, 1801-03. Refers a plan to the Assembly, 1790. A church in it appeals for money to the Assembly, 1790, and to the General Baptist Fund, 1791. Receives appeal for money from Boyce, 1791. Organizes in Lincolnshire, 1791. Criticises the Assembly churches, 1794. Starts rival plan for education, 1795. Its members present co-opted for the day, 1796 onwards. Organizes in London, 1798. Returns statistics along with other constituents, 1801. Requested to disuse the title, "Free-Grace General Baptists," 1801. Withdraws by letter, 1803. Note follows.

Northamptonshire Association. 1691-93, 96, 98, 1700-03 both Association and Assembly, 31-35, 42, 49, 61, 63, 65-67, 69, 81 note.

Northern Association (a) 1693, 1697, 1702. Compare London Association. (b) A, and soon the only, part of the New Connexion. See above, especially notes in 1776, 1784, 1803.

Ordination. 1660 (V.), 1689, 1693, 1711. I. xxix.

Organization. II. xii., I. xxvi.

Original Sin. 1656 (4), 1660 (X.)

Orthodox Creed of 1679. I. xix.

Passive Resistance. 1654, 1656 (5), 1660 (XXV.)

Perseverance of the Saints, not necessarily final. 1660 (XVIII.)

Personal Membership. 1772, 96, 99, 1801, 04.

Political Resolutions. 1654, 56, 60, 1772, 79, 87, 88, 1811.

Poor Relief. 1656 (16-18), 1660 (XIX.), 1741.

Preaching under control of the church. 1698, 1702, 04, 19.

Presbytery, of Messengers and Elders only. 1656 (8).

Procedure of Assembly. I. xxxi., II. xii.

Property enquiries. 1793-5.

Psalms, to be sung as grave solos. 1689 and note.

Questions as to state of churches. 1784-86.

Register of business openings. 1757.

Regium Donum. 1767.

Secessions, 1696, 1709 (Appendix), 1770, 1803.

Sermons written and read. I. xxi., 1756.

Singing. 1689, 1722, 33, 35, 56.

Six Principles of Hebrews VI., the basis of fellowship. I. xix. 1656 (1), 1660 (XII.), 1728, 77, 85.

Slave Trade denounced. 1787.

Sol-fa singing objectionable. 1689, 1733, 35.

(Southern Association of the New Connexion. Notes to 1776, 86, 87.)

Staffordshire Association. II. xi., 1691.

Statistics printed. 1796-1808.

Subscription to Articles of Faith refused, 1733, 77, 85. To the Thirty-nine Articles, Association 1700, 72.

Trades register. 1795, 98.

Trinity. Association 1700, 1734.

"Unity of the Churches." 1704-09, text and Appendix.

"Universal Theological Magazine." 1803, 05 re-named Monthly Repository.

Visitation of churches. 1774, 75, 83, 84, 1810.

Western Association. 1691-93, 96, 97, 1709-12, 14, 15, 24, 25, 28, II. x., 1733-41, 43, 55 dissolved. 1808.

Widow's Fund. 1755.

Worship with those of other communions undesirable. 1698, 1702.

XXXIX. Articles. I. xi., 1700 Association, 1772.

THEOLOGY LIBRARY
CLAREMONT, CALIF.

A 022235,2

BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Society invites the adhesion of all who are interested in a history which extends over three centuries. The Annual Meeting is held in London at the time of the Baptist Union meetings, about the end of April. Three copies of the Transactions are issued yearly, in April, September, and January; these are supplied to all who subscribe five shillings.

Larger works are published also; the present volumes of the Minutes of the General Baptists represent issues for 1908-9, 1909-10. These are supplied, as well as the Transactions, to all subscribers of a guinea. A composition of ten guineas qualifies for life. Future issues of this description will probably include the texts of many early Baptist Confessions, and a study of several early churches in Northamptonshire and the neighbourhood.

A list of the chief articles in the first four issues of the Transactions is presented, to show the scope of the Society's work:—

Leonard Busher, Dutchman; 1611—1642.
Origin of the Particular Baptists in London; 1616—1644.
Sutton-in-the-Elms and Arnesby; 1650—1800.
Porton in Hampshire; 1655—1685.
May a Minister take State Pay? 1656.
Baptists and Bartholomew's Day; 1662.
Bromsgrove; 1666—1698.
Militant Baptists; 1660—1672.
Early Welsh Baptist Doctrines; before 1670.
The Baptist Licences; 1672—1673.
An Unrecorded First Edition of Bunyan; 1675.
Baptist Literature till 1688; A—Br.
Old Wisbech Records; 1700—1837.
Original Sin, Feetwashing, and the New Connexion; 1771.
William Vidler, Baptist and Universalist; 1758—1816.
Letters to Dr. Rippon from New York; 1800.
Letters of Dr. Carey to his sons; 1812, 1814.
Dr. Carey and the Baptist Magazine; 1815.
Printing the Funeral Sermon of Dr. Ryland; 1825.
First Impressions of Bristol; 1826.
The Serampore Mission; 1836.

BAPTIST HISTORICAL
1908
SOCIETY

President:

Principal G. P. GOULD, M.A.

Vice-Presidents:

Rev. J. H. SHAKESPEARE, M.A.
Rev. T. VINCENT TYMMS, D.D.
His Honour Judge WILLIS, K.C., B.A., LL.D.

Secretary:

Rev. W. T. WHITLEY, M.A., LL.D., F.R.HIST.S.,
53, West Cliff, Preston.

Treasurer:

JAMES WARD, Esq.,
South Parade, Nottingham.

Committee:

The Officers with

C. J. Angus.
F. G. Benskin, M.A.
Jas. Ford, F.R.HIST.S.
J. C. Foster.
S. W. Green, M.A.
A. S. Langley, F.R.HIST.S.
Newton H. Marshall, M.A., PH.D.
H. Wheeler Robinson, M.A.
James Stuart.
J. W. Thirtle, D.D., M.R.A.S.

THEOLOGY LIBRARY
CLAREMONT, CALIF.

BX
6276
A3
V.2

THEOLOGY LIBRARY
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
AT CLAREMONT
CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA

23-262-002

A 022235.2

A 022235.2